

# THE JOURNAL OF

A U S T R A L I A N D I P L O M A C Y

THIS ISSUE - AS WITH THE LAST TWO ISSUES THIS YEAR - HAS A GIMMICK. IT'S ALL HANDWRITTEN. WELL, ALMOST ALL. IN FACT QUITE A LOT HAS BEEN TYPED (NOT BY ME THANK GOD) SO IT'S NOT AS PURE AS I'D HOPED. DOESN'T MATTER, I ENJOYED IT ANYWAY. EVEN IF I'M A LITTLE JADED WITH THE GAME ITSELF, AND THE HOBBY POLITICS LEAVE ME COLD, AT LEAST THERE IS STILL THE THRILL OF PUBLISHING.

LOTS IN THIS ISSUE → 1988 AUSTRALIAN POLL RESULTS, 1988 TOURNAMENT CIRCUIT RESULTS, GAMESTARTS, ENDGAMES, CANCON REPORTS, RATINGS, RATINGS' ARTICLES, NEWS, AND A FEW OTHER THINGS.

IT IS ALSO LATE. FIRST IT WAS GOING TO BE THE "END OF NOVEMBER ISSUE" BUT AS MORE AND MORE ARTICLES CAME IN LATE, IT TURNED INTO THE "MICHAEL'S BIRTHDAY ISSUE" THEN THE "CHRISTMAS ISSUE". (AND IT'S ALL A BIT OF A DOG'S BREAKFAST AS FAR AS LAYOUT GOES.)

SO MERRY BLOODY CHRISTMAS.

THE AUSTRALIAN  
HOBBY POLL FROM  
STEVEN

TOURNAMENT  
RATINGS FROM  
MICHAEL AND  
A NEW SYSTEM  
FROM ANDREW

OPINIONS FROM  
THE MAFIA,  
GAMESTARTS  
FROM MICHAEL  
AND EVOLUTION  
FROM BILL

ODDS FROM  
HARRY, AND  
AN UPDATE  
ON CANCON  
FROM MAT

AND AN  
ARTICLE  
FROM IAN



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# Publication Notes

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MICHAEL GIBSON

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MATHEW GIBSON, JOHN CAIN, MARK LYCETTE, HARRY KOLOTAS, BILL BROWN.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

FOR MORAL, ETHICAL, FINANCIAL, PHYSICAL AND ATHLETIC SUPPORT:  
HARRY KOLOTAS, MAT GIBSON, NEIL ASHWORTH, JOHN CAIN, JOHN CAIN,  
JOHN CAIN, GEORGE SMIRNOW, BILL BROWN, ROBERT WESSELS, NEIL  
INNES, KATRINA ALCHIN, AND ALL THE PEOPLE WHO SENT ME MONEY.

## LETTERS

BOB HOWARD, ADRIAN APLEYARD, MARK NELSON, HARRY KOLOTAS, JOHN CAIN,  
GREG LONG, ROBERT SACKS, BILL BROWN.

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## THE GEORGE SMIRNOW PRIZE

THIS ISSUE GOES TO FRANK HALUSZCZAK AS A FREE SAMPLE THANKS TO  
GEORGE SMIRNORALE.

## LATEST PRIZEWINNERS

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY CHAMPIONSHIPS.	
"BEST SET OF ORDERS" 1 YEAR OF JOURNALS	FRANK MEERBACH
"BEST ARTICLE" 1 YEAR OF JOURNALS	GEORGE SMIRNOW
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1988 AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY PLAYERS' SURVEY.	
"BEST ARTICLE" 1 YEAR OF JOURNALS	ARTHUR BISMARCK.

## NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE

MONDAY FEBRUARY 27TH

## PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

THE JOURNAL OF AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY IS DUE OUT AT THE BEGINNING OF  
MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER EACH. IT WILL ALWAYS BE  
LATE UNLESS SOMETHING DRAMATIC HAPPENS TO MY STATE OF MIND.

THE JOURNAL COSTS \$200/ISSUE, REGARDLESS OF YOUR ADDRESS.

MY ADDRESS IS MICHAEL GIBSON  
1/2A DAVIDSON ST  
SOUTH YARRA VIC 3141  
AUSTRALIA.

## NOTE TO EDITORS !!!

THE JOURNAL SHOULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED AS A SOURCE FOR YOUR  
OWN PRODUCTIONS. THE QUARTERLY NATIONAL RATINGS, NEWS, TOURNAMENT  
INFORMATION, POLL RESULTS, ETC... CAN BE REPRINTED AT WILL. THE  
JOURNAL'S READERSHIP IS STILL QUITE MODEST, SO THERE MAY BE MANY  
OF YOUR READERS WHO ARE UNAWARE OF ARTICLES WITHIN THE COVERS  
OF THIS ZINE.

## GAME OPENING GAME OPENING GAME OPENING

I HAVE DECIDED TO RUN AN EXHIBITION GAME OF DIPLOMACY, TO BE  
SCRUTINISED AND COMMENTED ON BY AN INDIVIDUAL OF SOUND  
JUDGEMENT. THIS I NEED:

A GM  
SEVEN PLAYERS (AND ONE STAND-BY)  
AN INDIVIDUAL OF SOUND JUDGEMENT.

IF YOU FEEL THE NEED TO FULFILL ANY OF THESE POSITIONS, THEN  
PLEASE CONTACT ME.

(CONDITIONS: THREE-WEEK TURNAROUND, WITH 4 TURNS DISPLAYED EACH  
ISSUE.)

# BlackBlackBlack

HELLO THERE. WELCOME TO ISSUE 80-4 OF THE JOURNAL, WHICH MAKES IT A FULL CALENDAR YEAR OF JOURNAL PRODUCTION AND LATE NIGHTS THE LOVE IT. HAS JUST ONE EXCITEMENT AFTER WHAT A GREAT YEAR IT'S BEEN. THE AUSTRALIAN HOBBY HAS JUST ONE EXCITEMENT AFTER ANOTHER A GREAT YEAR IT'S BEEN. THE DIPLOMACY BOARD AND OFF A YEAR OF PERSONALITIES OF ORGANISATION OF SPECTACULAR TOURNAENTS AND PUBLICITY OF THE EMERGENCE OF FOUR NEW ZINES, AND THE CRASH OF A FEW OTHERS, AND OF THE FATEFUL DOMINANCE OF HOBBY POLITICS.

[illegible]

GEORGE'S MASSIVE CENTRESTREAD ROLL CAME OUT IN MAY, WITH AN OPINION  
MORE ON OVER 100 HOBBYISTS. THEN FOR THE LAST HALF OF THIS YEAR, STEVEN  
BUSHAW HAS BEEN COMPILING THE AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY PLAYERS' ROLL. THE  
RESULTS ARE IN THIS ISSUE.

PERSONALLY, IT'S BEEN A BUSY YEAR FOR ME I'VE BEEN PLAYING TOURNAMENTS, BOOKS AND SOCIAL DIPLOMACY ALL YEAR, PRODUCING A DOZEN, KEEPING RECORDS, PRETENDING TO BE AN ARCHITECT, EATING LOTS OF LUNCHES, DRINKING TOO MUCH, AND TRAVELLING TO AS MANY OF AUSTRALIA'S GREAT CITIES AS I CAN GET TO. DIPLOMACY, PARTICULARLY WHEN THERE IS JUST NOT ROOM IN MY LIFE FOR SO MUCH. IT'S THE FACE TO FACE AND ASPECT OF THE GAME THAT I FIND TOO ENJOYING, GENERALLY TOO MUCH PERSONAL CONFLICT AND TOO MANY STRAINS ON FRIENDSHIPS, ESPECIALLY IN THE MEGADIP GAME THAT WE ALL PLAY.

SO... FORCED IN THE FIRE OF DEFEAT AND TEMPERED IN THE POUNDING AGAINST OF MENTAL DESPAIR ... I'VE MADE A DECISION. LESS DIPLOMACY, LESS FTF, LESS POLITICS. I'LL KEE P UP THE JOURNAL, BUT I WILL BE PROMOTING IT SOLELY AS A NEUTRAL BODY IN ANY CONFLICTS. MICHAEL "THE WIMP" GIBSON BOWS DOWN A STEP OR TWO FOLLOWING THE 1989 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN CANBERRA.

THAT'S IT FOR NOW, I HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A REALLY GOOD, RELATIVELY COMMERCIAL FREE CHRISTMAS, AND THAT YOUR NEW YEAR IS AS GOOD AS I'M PLAYING MINE TO BE.

LOVE AND KISSES

00  
X  
X

三十一

BOB HOWARD (1-10-88) WA

HEADS! I'M IN THE RED! PLEASE FIND \$5 ENCLOSED FOR SUBS TO YOUR EXCELLENT PUBLICATION. IF EVER YOUR ZINE FOLDS WHILE I AM IN CREDIT, FEEL FREE TO USE THAT MONEY IN THE PURCHASE OF CONDOMS SO THAT I COULD GET SOME SMALL SATISFACTION FROM YOUR BIG SATISFACTION.

LIKE YOU I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM OUR TASMANIAN FRIENDS IN A LONG WHILE DESPITE A NUMBER OF LETTERS. ORIGINALLY I RECEIVED DIPLOMACY WORLD DIRECT FROM LARRY PERRY BUT THEN GOT IT THROUGH RICK SNELL WHEN HE STRUCK SOME SORT OF A DEAL WITH LARRY. I HAVEN'T SEEN DN#50 OR #51 AT THE TIME OF WRITING BUT I DO KNOW THAT PETER CHAMBERS HAS BOTH SINCE HE STILL DEALS WITH LARRY DIRECT. WHAT'S GOING ON? IF THERE HAS BEEN A FALLING OUT AS SUGGESTED BY LARRY'S LETTER IN JOAD#3 THEN SURELY THEY SHOULD HAVE THE COURTESY TO LET US KNOW SO THAT WE CAN ONCE AGAIN GET THE ISSUES FROM AMERICA (AND GET A HEALTHY REFUND AS WELL.... I'VE GOT ABOUT \$15 CREDIT!!)

AS FAR AS YOUR DMC LISTINGS, PLEASE TAKE NOTE THAT BOTH B5M AND B6B HAVE FINISHED. I'M SURE THE GMS - STEVEN BAGSHAN AND TONY GRAHAM - WILL FURNISH YOU WITH DETAILS. (THERE'S A BRILLIANT WHITE KNIGHT IN BOTH GAMES!) AND (CONTRARY TO YOUR MYOPIC OPINION), AUSTRALIA'S BEST PLAYER WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE ACHNORTH'S DEBAUCHERY SESSION BUT IN FACT LIVING A QUIET, UNOBTRUSIVE LIFESTYLE IN THE BEAUTIFUL LEEMING SUNSHINE AND WINNING ALBANY OF COURSE.

GOT TO GO, AS I'VE JUST RECEIVED ANOTHER OMINOUS TREATISE IN THE MAIL, ALONG WITH A BAGSHAN GROVEL, A SHARK ABUSE, A WARD APOLOGY AND A..... OH, HOW NICE, A LOVE AND KISSES FROM YOUR CUTE BUTTOCKNESS, MIKE GIBSON.

(I'VE ACTUALLY RECEIVED A TGB - IN OCTOBER, BUT I'M YET TO SEE THE DIPLOMACY INSERT, OR D.W. THERE IS EVEN AN ARTICLE ON TOURNAMENTS AND RATINGS IN THIS ISSUE BY IAN WHITCHURCH, YET NO MENTION OF EVENTS ACROSS BASS STRAIT.)

ADRIAN APPLEBYARD (1-10-88) QLD

HOPEFULLY I'VE ENCLOSED MORE MONEY.

IN YOUR ENCL. REPORT YOU STATED THAT IAN WHITCHURCH WAS GIVING BOB. I AM (TRYING TO) GM BOB! EVEN SO, I HAVE RECEIVED NO STAMPS, ENVELOPES OR MAPS FROM TGB. I'VE WRITTEN TO RICK SNELL ABOUT THIS. NO REPLY. I FEEL SORRY FOR THE PLAYERS, WHOSE ORDERS I HAVE IN FRONT OF ME, AS I CANNOT AFFORD TO RUN THE GAME INDEPENDENTLY, AND I DO NOT WANT TO ASK THE PLAYERS TO PROVIDE \$50'S FOR A GAME THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE FREE. I'VE EVEN RUNG UP AND ASKED LINDON FLOOD TO PASS ON THE MESSAGE TO RICK ABOUT MY SITUATION. NO ANSWER YET.

WHERE WERE THE FIRST TWO ISSUES OF THE JAD? I SENT YOU THAT \$2 MONTHS (ABOUT... WELL I DON'T KNOW, BUT IT WAS A LONG TIME) AGO! USING THE ENCLOSED (IF ANY \$\$\$, COULD YOU SEND ME THE OTHER TWO?)

I THINK THIS IS ONE OF THE DEEPEST LETTERS I'VE WRITTEN, WHICH SHOWS YOU HOW SERIOUS I TAKE THINGS.

NOW TO THE MAG. VERY GOOD, SUPERB LAYOUT, AND IT HAD A LETTER FROM ME IN IT. EXCELLLEENNNNT.

P.S. MIKE; WHERE THE FUCK DO YOU LIVE? I LOOKED ON P4 TO FIND "GAME RECORDS - MICHEL GIBSON (ADDRESS BELOW), BUT WAS IT THERE? FUCK NO!

P.P.S. GUESS WHO FIRST SUGGESTED AN EDITORS GAME (FIRST TO SNELL BASE, THEN TO ANDREW E.)

((OKAY, LET ME GUESS.... YOU, RIGHT? AS FOR TGB, IT SEEMS TO HAVE ESCAPED THE ABUSE PILED ON BEOWULF. TGB MUST BE GOING THROUGH THE MESSIEST NON-FOLD EVER! AND YOUR INITIAL \$2 ARRIVED WELL AFTER JOAD#10. #2 HAD COME OUT. I WILL BE REPRINTED ISSUES #1 + #2 AS I'VE HAD A FEN REQUESTS FOR THEM. JUST HOLD TIGHT.))

MARK NELSON (7-10-88) UK

..... SAD NEWS ABOUT BEOWULF, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE I CONSIDERED IT THE INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY ZINE. HOWEVER I DO WONDER THAT IF ANDREW IS SHORT OF TIME IF HE SHOULD PASS OVER THE VARIANT BANK TO SOMEONE ELSE, SOMEBODY NOT RUNNING A ZINE IDEALLY. OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING PRODUCED BY THE AUSTRALIAN VARIANT BANK. ALTHOUGH, SINCE I DON'T ALL THE AUSTRALIAN ZINES I COULD BE WRONG. THE OZV NEEDS TO BRING OUT A CATALOGUE ASAP

HAVING STUDIED THE START OF THE UK HOBBY IN DETAIL, AND HAVING A PASSABLE KNOWLEDGE OF THE BEGINNINGS OF THE US HOBBY I HAVE TO ADMIT AN INTEREST IN HOW THE OZ HOBBY DEVELOPS. WILL YOU BACK UP MY IDEAS ON HOW DIPLOMACY HOBBIES EVOLVE? IT IS WITH THIS IN MIND I CONSIDER THE DAA AS MENTIONED ON PAGE 23.

ALL I'M GOING TO SAY IS WHAT DO PEOPLE GET OUT OF SENDING YOU \$5? NOTHING. IF YOU WANT TO RUN AN ORGANIZATION YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO OFFER PEOPLE SOMETHING, PROBABLY A SPECIAL DAA ZINE.

I MENTIONED TO JOHN CAIN THAT I WAS WORKING ON A RATING SYSTEM FOR AUSTRALIAN VARIANTS. THE SYSTEM IS FINISHED AND GAMES RATED, BUT THE ARTICLE EXPLAINING THE SYSTEM HASN'T BEEN STARTED! HOWEVER THIS IS MY FINAL YEAR AS AN UNDERGRADUATE AND THERE IS ZERO CHANCE OF YOU GETTING ANY RATINGS UNTIL 1989. STILL, BY THEN A FEW MORE GAMES WILL HAVE FINISHED, CAIN WAS IN THE LEAD AFTER ISSUE 2 OF THE JOURNAL. DOES THIS MEAN I SHOULD REVISE THE SYSTEM?

((THE ANSWERS TO YOUR FIRST THREE PARAGRAPHS UNFOLD AS THIS ZINE DOES, BUT AS TO YOUR LAST ONE HERE: NO. JOHN IS THE BEST VARIANT PLAYER IN THE WORLD!))

HARRY KOLOTAS (11-10-88) NSW

CONGRATULATIONS ON ISSUE 3; IT WAS EASILY THE BEST PRODUCED AND MOST INTERESTING JOURNAL SO FAR. THE CHARISMATIC GIBSON ENERGY SHONE THROUGH AT LAST AND THE JUMBLE OF STATISTICS WHICH CHARACTERIZED EARLIER JOURNALS SEEMS TO HAVE SORTED ITSELF OUT INTO SOME KIND OF USEFUL COHERENCE. I'M NOW CONVINCED THAT THERE IS A PLACE AND A PURPOSE FOR THIS KIND OF PUBLICATION AND I AM SENDING YOU A CHEQUE FOR \$20 WHICH, GIVEN THE FREQUENCY OF THE JOURNAL, WILL PROBABLY COVER ME FOR A 10 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION (SHOULD YOU LIVE THAT LONG, YOU DRUNKEN DON JUAN).

ONE THING THAT DOES BOTHER ME ABOUT THE JOURNAL IS THE PROLIFERATION OF MAYONNAISE. LOOK, DON'T GET ME WRONG, I'M AS AUSTRALIAN AS THE NEXT GREEK, BUT DO YOU REALLY THINK MAYONNAISE SHOULD BE SYNONYMOUS WITH A GREAT AUST-

ITALIAN JOURNAL? OLIVES I WOULD UNDERSTAND, SALAMI WOULD BE AN OBVIOUS CHOICE, PETA CHEESE IS THE OBJECT OF MANY A FETISH. BUT IS MAYONNAISE REALLY THE APPROPRIATE SYMBOL IN THIS ERA OF A MULTICULTURAL AUSTRALIA?  
YOURS IN EPIKUREAN ANTICIPATION, HARRY

JOHN CAIN (19-10-88) VIC.

REGARDING STAB (GROWN GROWN). WHILE I HAVEN'T YET SEEN THE COMPLETE SC CHART/RATINGS FOR THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY CHAMPIONSHIP, I BELIEVE THAT (FROM WHAT I DID SEE) IT WORKED VERY WELL AT SADC. THE ADDITION OF DRAW POINTS SEEMS TO WORK VERY WELL. HOWEVER, THE CRITICISM WHICH BROUGHT THIS CHANGE (FROM 1.333 MULTIPLIER TO DRAW POINTS) APPLIES EQUALLY TO RATING OF GAMES IN PROGRESS.

IF WE WANT TO PRESENT A TABLE OF PROGRESSIVE RATINGS IN THE JOURNAL GENERATED BY MICHAEL HORTON'S RATE PROGRAM, THEN WE NEED TO PROVIDE AN INCENTIVE/REWARD FOR PLAYER (ESPECIALLY SMALLER POWERS) TO STRIVE FOR THAT EXTRA CENTRE OR TWO. ALSO PROGRESSIVE STAB FAILS TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE ACTUAL CURRENT POSITION OF PLAYERS, WHETHER ONE HAS JUST CURRENTLY FOUGHT ONE'S WAY INTO THE LEAD (AND SCORE SEVEN POINTS) OR HAS LEAD IN THE PAST BUT IS NOW THIRD OR FOURTH, MAKES NO DIFFERENCE. SURELY THERE SHOULD BE SOME ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IN THE SYSTEM OF HOW PLAYERS ARE ACTUALLY PERFORMING.

I PROPOSE THAT INSTEAD OF SCORES BEING MULTIPLIED BY 1.333 FOR GAMES IN PROGRESS, 4 POINTS BE PRO-RATED ACCORDING TO CURRENT SC HOLDINGS. AS GEORGE SMIRNOW WOULD BE THE FIRST TO POINT OUT, THE CURRENT 1.333 MULTIPLIER IS TOTALLY ARTIFICIAL. I BELIEVE IT IS DESIRABLE FOR A PROGRESSIVE SYSTEM TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE CURRENT, ACTUAL STATE OF THE GAME, AND PRO-RATA ALLOCATION OF FOUR POINTS, WHICH IS ALREADY HOW DRAWS ARE DEALT WITH, SEEMS A SIMPLE AND EFFECTIVE MANNER OF DOING THIS.

ADDITIONALLY, WE DO NEED TO ADDRESS THE LARGE AMOUNT OF NOISE GEORGE S. IS MAKING ABOUT RATINGS. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT RANKLES HIM IS THAT STAB TAKES NO ACCOUNT OF ACTUAL CURRENT HOLDINGS - THIS IS A VALID CRITICISM. THE PROPOSED CHANGE WOULD NEATLY ADDRESS THIS CRITICISM, AND MAKE THE STAB SYSTEM, WHICH IS BY FAR THE BEST IN AUSTRALIA, EVEN BETTER.

(I AGREE WITH YOU. I DO SEE GEORGE'S POINT ABOUT RATINGS, BUT HE'S CHANGED HIS SYSTEM SO MANY TIMES I'M NOT SURE WHAT HE'S UP TO. THESE CHANGES WOULD MAKE STAB MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE GAME'S SITUATION AT THE TIME OF RATING. I'LL GET ON TO HORTON ABOUT THIS))

GREG LONG (31-10-88) VIC.

IT WAS FITTING THAT THE COVER OF THE LAST JOURNAL DEPICTED CORYONG AT THE CENTRE OF THE MAP.

CORYONG SITUATED MIDWAY BETWEEN THE MEGACITIES OF MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY IS OF COURSE THE DIPLOMACY CAPITAL OF AUSTRALIA. THE JOURNAL'S OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THIS FACT IS APPRECIATED AS A GENUINE EXPRESSION OF HOMAGE.

HOPEFULLY, NOW, THE INTERCITY RIVALRY OF THE GIANTS WILL BE QUASHED. HARRY KOLOTAS AND GEORGE SMIRNOW WILL, HOWEVER, NOT BE FORGOTTEN. AS PROVINCIAL DEPUTIES THEIR SERVICES WILL BE USEFUL (ALBET INESSENTIAL) TO THE WELFARE OF THE HOBBY.

((ON YER GREG. I OFFICIALLY DECLARE CORYONG TO BE THE CENTRE OF THE HOBBY AND GREG LONG ITS LIFE-TIME KING, THE JOURNAL ITS NEWSPAPER AND DIPLOMACY THE NATIONAL SPORT. LET'S HOLD THE WORLD DIPLOMACY CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 1992 THERE! HURRAH!))

ROBERT SACKS (21-11-88) USA

YOU REALLY ARE DISHEARTENING. THE REST OF THE HOBBY INSTANTLY ACCLAIMS THE DAM AS THE BEST THING TO HAPPEN IN YEARS, AND YOU AUSTRALIANS GO AND CHUCK IT. THE BEST HOBBY OFFICERS HERE DID NOT START OUT TO BE HOBBY OFFICERS BUT TO DO THINGS. MANY SERVICES PROVIDERS DENY THEY ARE DOING ANYTHING MORE THAN A PRIVATE EFFORT.

HOBBY POLITICS IS NOT FUN. THERE ARE NO ELECTIONS. HOBBY POLITICS INVOLVES THE PROTECTION OF THE HOBBY IT'S OFFICES, SERVICES AND PROJECTS; THE OTHER SIDE OF HOBBY POLITICS INVOLVES EFFORTS TO CONTROL OR DISRUPT THESE THINGS.

NEITHER THE MILLER NUMBER NOR THE REGISTRY OF PROJECTS ARE "OBSCURE BODIES".

I MUST ADMIT I FIND THE SELECTED LOGO INCOMPREHENSIBLE, AND SO CANNOT ADJUDGE ITS MERITS.

BILL BROWN (25-11-88) VIC

WELL I'VE JUST HAD ANOTHER READ OF THE JOURNAL AND I HAVE TO SAY YOUR EDITORIAL WAS VERY WELL DONE. YOUR PERSONALITY, THE ONE THAT MAKES MIKE GIBSON SO UNIQUE LEAPS OFF THE PAGE. THIS IS WHAT GIVES OUR MAGAZINES THEIR OWN FLAVOUR AND THE JOURNAL IS NO EXCEPTION.

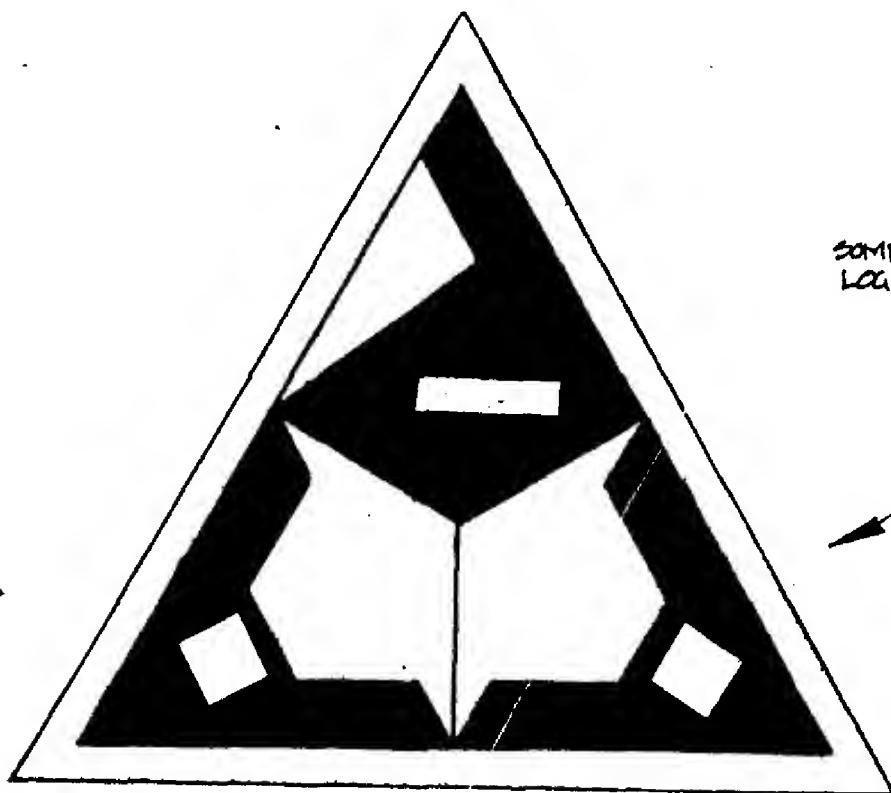
I DO LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT JOURNAL. WITH EACH ISSUE THE EXPECTATION OF EACH SECTION INCREASES. IF THE NEXT IS THE LAST THEN I WILL REGRET IT'S PASSING.

ONE THING UPON READING YOUR EDITORIAL, LOOKING UPON IT WITH AN OPEN MIND (NOT HAVING READ IT SINCE I RECEIVED IT) I NOTICED ONE THING..... YOU WRITE ABOUT BOB AND CHRIS WADE..... THEN YOUR SISTERS ENGAGEMENT TO CHRIS. NOW NOT EVERYONE WOULD KNOW THAT THEY ARE IN NO WAY THE SAME BLOKE, AND THE DEADHEADS MAY THINK YOU ARE GOING TO BE RELATED TO CHRIS WADE!

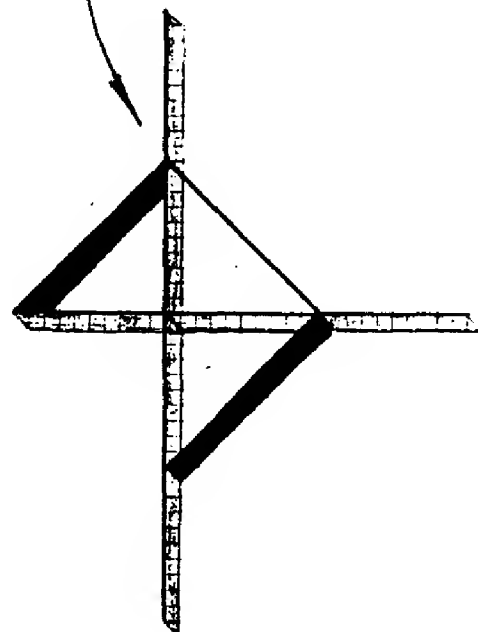
ANY SIGN OF THE SURVEY RESULTS YET? TIME MARCHES ON - I SUPPOSE EXAMS HAVE HELD STEVEN UP. WILL THE JOURNAL HAVE THE FIRST RESULTS? THEN MAYBE YOU CAN ME A SCOOP SNEAK PREVIEW?

DAA - I'M STILL UNSURE AND UNCOMMITTED TO WHAT SHOULD BE HAPPENING WITH THIS SECRETARY POSITION. I'VE HAD NO URGE OR DESIRE TO DO ANYTHING CONNECTED WITH THE DAA. I'VE FOUND THAT ANYTHING YOU DO OR PROPOSE NEEDS FEEDBACK TO ENCOURAGE AND REFINE AND INSPIRE FURTHER THINGS. MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE COME OUT WITH SOMETHING ON MY THOUGHTS ON THE HOBBY AND SPREAD IT AROUND IN THE MAGAZINES, BUT I THINK OUR HOBBY GENERALLY IS APATHETIC AND AMATEURISH, THE RESPONSE YOU GET TO ANYTHING IS USUALLY FROM THE BIG NAMES. AND THIS IS A CONTINUING SPIRAL. YOU GET A RESPONSE FROM SOMEONE, YOU REFINE THE IDEA TOGETHER, YOU COME TO A DECISION, ALL WITHIN THAT SMALL CIRCLE. BUT IF THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET ANYTHING DONE AND IF THE PEOPLE WHO ARE DOING IT ARE DOING IT BECAUSE THEY WANT TO AND GET SOMETHING DONE, THEN MAYBE THAT'S THE WAY IT SHOULD BE. THE ONLY FEEDBACK I'VE HAD IS AN OFFER FOR MONEY FROM BOB HOWARD, SO I'VE HAD LITTLE REASON TO DO ANYTHING.

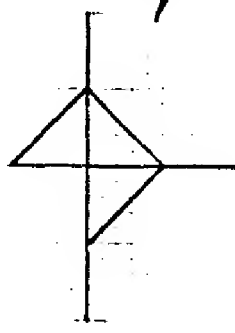
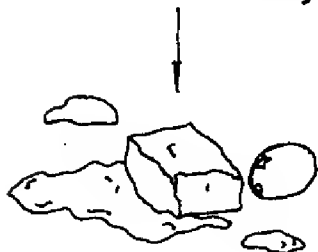
MAYBE THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO DO IS TO SET UP A P.O. BOX AND PROVIDE AN ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER AS A CONTACT FOR THE LEAFLETS. THIS MAY BE BETTER THAN HAVING THE MAGAZINES LISTED AND PUTTING MORE ONTO OUR HARD WORKING EDITORS TO RESPOND TO NEWCOMERS. TO PAY FOR THE P.O. BOX HOW ABOUT RUNNING A DAA AD IN THE JOURNAL - \$5 JOINING FEE - TO SEE WHAT RESPONSE WE GET? A SMALL STEP FORWARD?



SOME MORE IDEAS FOR D.A.A.  
LOGOS FROM BILL BROWN.



AND SOME MORE  
MAYONNAISE (AND  
SOME FETTA CHEESE  
AND AN OLIVE)



# Readallaboutit!

## DIPLOMACY ZINE UPDATE

TRAGEDY OF HOPE IS AUSTRALIA'S NEWEST RP-ZINE, TO BE PRODUCED BY THAT WILD-WILDARD HIMSELF, GREG LONG OF GORSYONG. WHILE IT HASN'T ACTUALLY APPEARED YET, IT'S SUBSCRIBERS HAVE RECEIVED RECEIPTS FOR THEIR MONEY. INDICATIVE OF BOTH GREG'S INTENT TO GET THE THING OUT, AND OF HIS PROFESSION. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO MISSED HIS AD IN THE GUNSHIP OR THE LATEST VICTORIANA, HE CAN BE CONTACTED AT: PO BOX 7, GORSYONG, VIC 3107.

NEIL SHARK, ALAN HOWARD AND ANDREW ENGLAND ARE CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS WITH A SPECIAL JOINT ISSUE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE ZINES, 1 TO 1 AGAINST GUNSHIP AND BEOWULF. SURE TO BE A COLLECTOR'S ITEM.

YES! THE RUMOURS ARE CORRECT. THE ENVOY IS TOO CHARGE HANDS AGAIN. THIS TIME TO ITS FIRST EDITOR, PAT GIBSON. THAT WHO WILL CONTINUE TO BE BASED IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEXT YEAR, HAS PROMISED TO CONTINUE THE HIGH PRODUCTION STANDARD SET BY THE AMMORTISING TO MAINTAIN MARION'S HIGH EDITORIAL STANDARDS THAT GAVE THE ENVOY PICK UP "BEST ZINE" IN THE 1988 DIPLOMACY PLAYERS POLL (SEE ARTICLE THIS ISSUE).

THIS WILL NOW BRING THE NUMBER OF ZINES COMING OUT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA UP TO FOUR, AND NONE FROM NEW SOUTH WALES.

## DIPLOMACY HOBBY NEWS

ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE YOU'LL FIND THE RESULTS OF THE 1988 AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY PLAYERS POLL. IN THE BIG 4 CATEGORIES, BEST PLAYER: BILL BROWN, GEORGE OMIRNOW (CIE) BEST ZINE: THE ENVOY, BEST ARTICLE: "THE BENCHMARK PAPERS" (A BENCHMARK) BEST GM: MICHAEL GIBSON.

THE OTHER BIG NEWS IS THE RESULTS OF THE 1988 TOURNAMENT CIRCUIT. AFTER A DIP CONVENTION'S AND A TOTAL OF 51 GAMES, THE 1988 TOURNAMENT CHAMPION IS ANDREW ENGLAND.

WHO IS ARTHUR BENCHMARK? SINCE ISSUE #1'S THE ENVOY HAS BEEN PUBLISHING A GREAT SERIES OF "LECTURES" ON THE ART OF DIPLOMACY BY AN "ARTHUR BENCHMARK". THE ASH WORTH'S HAVE NOT REVEALED THE TRUE AUTHOR, DESPITE SOME PRETTY RIGOROUS TORTURE, BUT WE'RE LED TO BELIEVE THAT IT IS NOT KOLOTAS. CLUTTER - BUCK LONG, EITHER OF THE ASH WORTH'S OR ANYONE ELSE? CURRENTLY IN THE HOBBY.

ANDREW ENGLAND AND JOHN GAIN HAVE SWAPPED HOBBY OFFICES. THE AUSTRALIAN VARIANT BANK (LIBRARY OF RULES, MAPS AND ADVICE ON VARIANTS) IS NOW BEING RUN BY JOHN, AND THE MILLER NUMBER CUSTODIAN (KEEPER OF VARIANT GAME RECORDS) IS NOW ANDREW.

IN ADDITION, ANDREW IS LOOKING FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO BE THE AUSTRALIAN

SEVEN

BRANCH OF THE "INTERNATIONAL SUBSCRIPTION EXCHANGE" (ISE) WHICH ACTS AS A CLEARING HOUSE FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS TO OVERSEAS ZINE AND HOBBY PUBLICATIONS.

PROMINENT NEW BUSINESSMAN AND ENVOY TOE CUTTER, NEIL ASHWORTH HAS ORGANISED A SET OF PAMPHLETS ON THE HOBBY TO BE INCLUDED WITH EVERY DIPLOMACY SET PURCHASED IN AUSTRALIA. IT WILL CONTAIN ZINE ADDRESSES AND A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE HOBBY GAME.

PART OF THE NATIONAL TITLES IN JANUARY WILL BE A DISCUSSION ABOUT POSSIBLE SITES FOR AUSTRALIA'S TURN TO HOLD THE 1992 WORLD DIPLOMACY CONVENTION WHILE IT'S CERTAIN WE WILL HOLD IT, WE MUST INVESTIGATE WHERE AND WHEN. DURING THE YEAR WOULD BE MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO STAGE THE EVENT. ALSO AN ORGANISING COMMITTEE WILL NEED TO BE SET UP. ANYONE WHO HAS ANY IDEAS ON THIS SHOULD BRING THEM ALONG TO CANCON FOR DISCUSSION. IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT, WRITE TO ME WITH YOUR IDEAS AND I'LL MAKE SURE THEY ARE LISTENED TO.

## DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

FOLLOWING WAVES OF NEGATIVE, NEUTRAL AND HELPFUL CRITICISM, THE DATA IS FORMATION HAS BEEN DELAYED. WHILEST HARRY KOLOTAS JOAN GAIN AND I WORK OUT A MORE LOW-KEY APPROACH TO THE IDEALS WE STARTED WITH. READY TO BE LAUNCHED AT CANCON BY IN CANBERRA WITH AN OPEN DISCUSSION ON THE ROLE AND MERITS OF SUCH A BODY. T-SHIRTS AND A DIPLOMATS 1988 DIARY FOR SALE.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

DO YOU HAVE NEWS TO TELL? PRESS RELEASES, VARIANT LAUNCHES TO ADVERTISE? THEN DO IN THE COLUMNS OF READALLABOUTIT! IN THE JOURNAL FOR FREE.

THE JOURNAL REQUIRES A ROVING REPORTER FOR ITS READALLABOUTIT SECTION. I'M INTERESTED IN SOMEONE TO FILE NEWS, GOSSIP, CONVENTION REPORTS, ETC.... IT'S A TOUGH JOB, BUT SOMEONE'S GOT TO DO IT. NO PAY, BUT YOU GET YOUR NAME IN PRINT EACH ISSUE.

I'M INTERESTED IN KNOWING EVERYONE'S BIRTHDAY. I PROMISE NOT TO MISUSE THE INFORMATION FOR COMMERCIAL REASONS, I JUST WANT TO LIST ALL YOUR BIRTHDAYS IN THE 1988 DIPLOMATS DIARY DUE FOR RELEASE AT CANCON.

FINALLY, I WISH TO REPLY TO A RECENT SCURRILOUS ACCUSATION MADE BY ALAN HOWARD IN A RECENT ISSUE OF BEOWULF:

ALAN, THIS IS SEMEN

AND THIS IS MAYONNAISE!





# (YET ANOTHER) **CANCON UPDATE!**

BY THE ORGANISER, MAT "THE BASTARD" GIBSON.

Just when you thought you'd heard the last of mat and his CanCon diatribes, The Bastard comes back with avengance, an article and some more unalterable alterations. Best read before bedtime instead of sleeping pills.

## **1. Please Attend.**

Please, please, pretty please. Otherwise it'll look awful on my curriculum vitae if I claim to have organised the Australian Diplomacy Championships and only ten people turned up. But seriously, around twenty five people have already promised to attend (and that's only from within the hobby itself), so this year's CanCon promises to be the largest Diplomacy gathering in Australia so far. Honestly, you'll all have a ball of a time. If you don't believe me, just ask someone who went last year.

## **2. Accomodation.**

Toad Hall. It's clean, it's cheap, ther're lots of rooms, showers, kitchens, Bert, the Wheel, I tell ya' we're gonna have a ball of a time wank, wank, wank. A lot of people stayed here last time a it comes well recommended for cheap accomodation. I will be doing a bulk booking on 13th of January, so anyone who wants to stay there will have to lodge their intention before that date. After that, you can arrange it yourself, but call me for a contact number.

## **3. The Diplomacy Dinner.**

Yes, this is it, folks, Diplomacy's night of nights. It'll be such an absolutely brill evening that even Neil Smark, who is unable to attend most of the con, will be coming over for this event. It is also rumoured that **Arthur Bismark** will be along to give a guest address, as will Luke Clutterbuck and perhaps a few others. The booking is TENTATIVELY for an inexpensive Italian restaurant called LA COCINA. Again, people hoping to join in this gala evening will have to contact me on or prior to Jan 13th.

## **4. Ratings System.**

Here's a contentious one for all you argumentative types. Just after having printed the 'Final and Irrevocable' CanCon Update in the last copy of The Envoy Andrew at last perfected a ratings system. STAB Revised Mk II is so good that I'll be using that instead of the system vaunted in that afore mentioned article. Any and all complaints can be sent to:

'Hut' Miles 4 Rosevear St. Kingswood 5062.

((NOTE: YOUR FINAL RESULT IS STILL BEST "3 out of 4" ))

## **5. The Intimate Diplomacy Tournament.**

For the uninitiated, Intimate Diplomacy is more or less a variant and has been growing steadily in popularity for some time. While standard



Diplomacy is played some economic do-hickeys are thrown in. It is short, sharp, balanced and requires a very good strategic/tactical mind. This replaces the bourse as the principal diversion from the standard Diplomacy games. There is no bourse this year because there will be no final.

## 6. DAA Meeting.

Hmmmmmm. At the moment this one is a bit of a hot potato , but by CanCon it'll be sliced and smothered in butter. ANY and ALL people who have something CONSTRUCTIVE to propose or offer is welcome. The intention is that it will be a body with little power but lots of service. Even if you're only curious to find out what the whole thing is about, attend and a brilliant idea might come to you. Wine and cheese will not be provided.

## 7. Prizes.

No cash prizes will be given out this year. Instead the money will be spread out as thinly as possible, so that everyone can take home at least something memorable and long lasting, not unlike the little parcel of candy we all used to get at the end of kiddies parties. Yummy, yum, yum. Here are a list of the sort of catagories that awards will be given for. Unless otherwise stated, they are certificates.

1. Trophies for 1st to 3rd place in the main tournament.
2. All full players (min 3 games).
3. Best Austrian Performance, Best French, German etc.
4. Trophy for voted Most Popular Player (see last Envoy). (\*22)
5. All full players - popularity rankings.
6. Best Sportsperson, Biggest Whinger, Worst Tantrum etc. ((Best Brother!))

Material prizes, such as magazine subscriptions, will be assigned at the last minute while I'm in a big rush. (For instance, the Journal will award as year's sub to the author of the best article about CanCon 89)

## 8. Timetable.

Time	Thursday	Friday/Saturday	Sunday
9.00	Address	Notices	Notices
9.15		Start games 2&3	Start game 4
9.30	Start game 1		
12.30		Lunch	Lunch
12.45	Lunch		
1.30	-----End Lunch-----		
2.00	-----Start Intimate Diplomacy-----		
4.30-5.00			End game 4
5.00-6.00	End game 1	End game 2&3	Clean-up/ Presentations
At Night	?	Friday - DAA meeting/ Saturday - Dip Dinner	

MAT GIBSON 4 OXENBOULD ST. PARKSIDE SO63 (08) 271 42 76

# CANCON BETTING!

AS PART OF THE LEAD UP TO THE BIG EVENT IN CANBERRA, THE JOURNAL PRESENTS ITS OWN TOTE BOOK FOR BETTING FOR THE DIPLOMACY TITLES.

IN A JOURNAL EXCLUSIVE, WE WILL BE RUNNING THE BETTING IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ORGANISER OF THE NATIONAL DIPLOMACY CHAMPIONSHIPS - MAT GIBSON.

WHO WILL WIN THE NATIONAL CHAMPS? HONEST HARRY, THE PUNTERS FRIEND, GIVES HIS TIPS...

## CRASHING BOER (ROB WESSELS)

ELITE 6TH EFFECAN CONTENDER LIKELY TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THIS RACE. LAST YEAR FINISHED IN THE TOP TEN AND, GIVEN HIS RECENT TOP FORM AT EXPD AND THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP, HE WILL BE PRESSURING THE FAVOURITES AT CANBERRA. LIKES TO RUN WITH BLINKERS ON WHICH COULD BE A PROBLEM IN A RACE WHERE RUTHLESS COMPETITIVENESS SOMETIMES HAS TO GIVE WAY TO A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION.

## VICTOR VICTORIANA (JOHN CAIN)

NUGGETY LITTLE FIGHTER WHO GETS STUCK IN, HOOVES AND ALL. A GREAT TACTICIAN WITH A BLUNT DIPLOMACISING STYLE AND PLENTY OF COMMITMENT, LIKES THE MUD AND SHOULD DO WELL IF THERE IS MUCH OF IT FLYING AROUND. ALWAYS A GOOD BET.

## TRUE GRIT (IAN CASTLE)

GUTSY GALLOPER IMPRESSED THE PUNTERS LAST NATIONAL TITLES WITH HIS DETERMINATION TO HANG ON. A CANNY RACER WHO HAS THE EXPERIENCE TO SNEAK UP ON THE OTHER CONTENDERS AND STEAL THE CHAMPIONSHIP. IF HE GETS A GRIP ON ANYONE IT WILL BE JAWS PTII ALL OVER AGAIN. THE STAYING POWER OF A BULL DOG.

## YOUNG BLOOD (THORIN MUNRO)

RELATIVE NEWCOMER TO THE CIRCUIT WHO IS BEGINNING TO MAKE A DENT ON THE TOURNAMENT RATINGS. STILL A LITTLE SHAKY ON HIS FETLOCKS AND SOMETIMES GIVES A GOOD IMITATION OF BAMBI ON ICE. HOWEVER IS LEARNING FAST AND COULD FIGURE PROMINENTLY IN THE GREAT RACE.

## WILD CARD (IAN KASTURA)

QUALITY THOROUGHED CAPABLE OF BIG THINGS ON HIS DAY. LAST YEAR WAS THE ONLY COMPETITOR, APART FROM THE INCOMPARABLE SATANIC MAJESTY, TO COME CLOSE TO THE MAGIC 18 CENTRE VICTORY. TOOK A BIT OF A BEATING IN THE FINAL GAME BUT THIS IS NOT INDICATIVE OF HIS CAPABILITIES.

## YOUNG UPSTART (WOJTEK CZARNOCKI)

THIS YEAR'S MODEL. TALENTED COLT WHO HAS YET TO PROVE HIMSELF AT A MAJOR CITY MEET. SOME QUESTION MARK OVER TEMPERAMENT BUT IT'S NOW OR NEVER FOR THIS HANDY EASTERN EUROPEAN CONTENDER.

## MR CONSISTENT (NEIL ASHWORTH)

KIWI STALLION WHO EXHIBITS THE CONTROL, DETERMINATION AND BREATHTAKING RUTHLESSNESS TO GO ALL THE WAY. HAS AN EXCELLENT RECORD ON THIS COURSE WITH A 3RD LAST YEAR. I LIKE HIS LEGS. HAS THE HAUNCHES OF A CHAMPION, WATCH HIM, HE BITES

## DON QUIXOTE (LUKE CLUTTERBUCK)

LEGENDARY STEED COMES OUT OF RETIREMENT FOR ONE MORE TILT AT THE WINDMILL. THE ARMOUR IS RUSTY, THE LANCE DROOPING BUT THE BALLS SEEM INTACT. HAS THE SHEER ROBUST CUNNING TO FORCE HIS WAY BACK INTO THE WINNER'S CIRCLE.

## SATANIC MAJESTY (ANDREW ENGLAND)

CHAMPION SPEEDSTER. RESUMING FROM LOSING SPELL AFTER HE THREW HIS JOCKEY AT THE SYDNEY EXPD AND BOLTED OFF THE TRACK AMID CONTROVERSY. KNOWS THE CANCON COURSE LIKE THE BACK OF HIS HOOF, LAST YEAR'S WINNER BY A MILE, WITH FIRE IN HIS BELLY AND STEEL IN HIS BALLS. ON HIS DAY - UNBEATABLE.

## STORMTROOPER (GREG CALDER)

TACTICALLY BRILLIANT STAYER WHO FIGHTS TO THE END AND IS MOST DANGEROUS IN DEFEAT. WITH AN ALLY OR TWO ALONG THE WAY HE IS UNSTOPPABLE. CANBERRA '84 COULD BE HIS RESURGENCE. THE HILLS ARE ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF JACKBOOTS.

## EXCITABLE BOY (PAUL WARD)

LIVELY COLT WHO TENDS TO BOLT THROUGH CLOSED WINDOWS IF HE IS NOT HANDLED PROPERLY. FRISKY AND HIGHLY STRUNG, PROBABLY DUE TO BEING RIDDEN BY THE TYPE OF JOCKEY WHO WOULDN'T THINK TWICE ABOUT CHANGING HORSES IN MIDSTREAM. A LONG SHOT DUE TO HIS DRINKING PROBLEM.

## THINK POSITIVE (STEVEN BAGSHAW)

TREMENDOUSLY ENTHUSIASTIC GALLOPER WHOSE CONFIDENCE SEEMS LIMITLESS. EVEN WHEN HE IS LOSING HE APPEARS TO THINK HE IS ONE LAST GASP AWAY FROM A STUNNING VICTORY. A TIRELESS NEGOTIATOR WHO COULD TALK HIS OWN GRANDMOTHER INTO A EUTHANASIA PROGRAM. MAY NOT HAVE THE EXPERIENCE AND STAYING POWER FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP THOUGH.

## QUEEN OF STABS (MARION ASHWORTH)

A RARITY IN THIS RACE, A MARE WITH THE CHASS TO TAKE OUT THE BIG ONE. TENDS TO START OUT SLOW BUT WITH A CRUSHING BUILD OF MOMENTUM. HER MAJOR STRENGTH IS AN INCONSPICUOUS, INGENUOUS STYLE OF PLAY, WHICH TENDS TO LULL HER OPPOSITION AND LEAVE THEM DOCILELY EATING OUT OF HER NOSE-BAG. I RATE HER A POSSIBLE SLEEPER WHO COULD COME ALIVE AT THE RIGHT TIME AND STEAL THE RACE.

## THAT'S AMORE (MICHAEL GIBSON)

RANDY COLT SURED OUT OF "BEST FRIENDS GIRL" AND "TWO TIMER". EXPERIENCED RACER WHO COULD MAKE A BIG IMPRESSION ON THIS EVENT IF HE KEEPS HIS MIND ON THE JOB RATHER THAN THE GENERAL STATE OF HIS SEX ORGAN. EXPECTED TO MOUNT A SERIOUS CHALLENGE AT CANCON. FAILING THAT, WILL PROBABLY MOUNT WHOEVER'S HANDY.

## GREY POWER (HARRY KOLOTAS)

WIND BLOWN NAG WHOSE BEST DAYS ARE BEHIND HIM. USUALLY MANAGES TO KEEP UP WITH THE CONTENDERS, HEALTH PERMITTING, ONLY TO FALTER AT THE FINISHING LINE WHEN ALLIANCES ARE SETTLED AND TACTICS BECOME IMPORTANT. KNOWN TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE THEORY THAT THE PEN OF THE NEGOTIATOR IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD OF THE TACTITIAN.

### TENDERFOOT (LIVE LANE)

RELATIVELY UNTRIED NEWCOMER WHO LOOKS LIKE A SEVEN FOOT RABBIT MEMORISED BY THE HEADLIGHTS OF AN ONCOMING TRUCK. AT CANCON LAST YEAR THE LANKY STALLION LIVED UP TO HIS DESCRIPTION BY ENDING THE FINALS AS ONE LONG STREAK OF ONEEARED BUNNY. EXHIBITS A TOUCHING GULLIBILITY AND EARNEST APPROACH TO THE GAME. LEARNING FAST HOWEVER, AND HAS RECENTLY REVEALED A DISTURBING TENDENCY TO STAB AND WIN. LIKES COMING FROM BEHIND, WIFE PERMITTING.

### BIRD OF PREY (PETER DYDUSIAK)

FEROCIOUS WARHORSE KNOWN TO INSPIRE DREAD AND TREMBLING FETLOCKS IN HIS OPPONENTS. STRIKES LIKE AN EAGLE AT DEFENCELESS BUNNIES AND CONVENTION HARDENED PIRAHNA'S ALIKE. HIS REPUTATION IS HIS ONLY WEAKNESS - EVEN HIS ALLIES HANDLE HIM WITH THE EXTREME CAUTION USUALLY RESERVED FOR FERAL CATS OR RABID DOGS. A STRONG FINALS TIP IF HE IS NOT PUT TO SLEEP BEFORE JANUARY.

### THE SAINT (CRAIG SEDGEWICK)

IF DIPLOMATS HAD TO BE RATED ALONG THE LINES OF DUNGEON AND DRAGON CHARACTERS THEN CRAIG WOULD BE A LAWFUL GOOD PALADIN. JUST, MODEST, TEMPERATE, IN HIS STABS, CRAIG IS A REGULAR GUY. LIKE ALL SAINTS HE HAS FREQUENTLY BEEN MARTYRED ON THE CROSS OF TREACHERY AND THIS HAS TENDED TO HANDICAP HIS FORM SOMEWHAT. SLIPS TOO EASILY INTO THE VICTIM ROLE AND THIS MAKES HIM A LONG SHOT

### WINDER'S DARLING (TERRY TOLHURST)

CAME OUT OF NOWHERE TO BLITZ THE FIELD AT EXPO BUT LITTLE IS KNOWN ABOUT THIS EVEN TEMPERED STAYER BEYOND HIS ABIDING AFFECTION FOR HIS TRAINER DARRYL WINDER. STILL UNCLEAR HOW THIS QUIET ACHIEVER WILL RUN AGAINST CLASS OPPOSITION NOW THAT HE HAS BECOME A TALL POPPY.

### TERRY'S MATE (DARRYL WINDER)

THE SECOND HALF OF THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL CARTEL WHICH TOOK OUT FIRST AND SECOND PLACE AT EXPO. THIS POWERFUL SYDNEY CHAMPION HAS THE BREEDING AND EXPERIENCE TO REPEAT HIS SYDNEY SUCCESS. HAS THE LOOK OF AN ARROGANT SHARK ABOUT TO MAKE A MEAL OUT OF HIS OPPOSITION. INTIMIDATING AND A PROVEN WINNER.

### STATESMAN (STEVE GOULD)

FORMER NSW CHAMPION WHO HAS BEEN STRUGGLING OF LATE. HAS THE TACTICAL INSIGHTS, NEGOTIATING SKILLS AND FINALS EXPERIENCE TO MAKE A BIG IMPACT ON THIS CONTEST. HE'S ABOUT DUE FOR A WIN AND SEEMS TOTALLY UNAFFECTED BY RECENT SET-BACKS. THE MARK OF A CHAMPION.

### RISEING STAR (NEIL SMARK)

TOP CLASS SPEEDSTER WHO IS GRAFTING AND HUSTLING HIS WAY TO THE TOP. KEPT OUT OF THE WINNERS CIRCLE LAST YEAR BY THE EXTRAORDINARY PERFORMANCE OF SATANIC MAJESTY BUT HAS THE GRIT AND STAYING POWER TO MAKE 1989 THE YEAR OF THE RISEING STAR. ADOPTS A SUBTLE, LOW PROFILE APPROACH TO THE RACE WHICH USUALLY ENABLES HIM TO MAKE HIS WAY UNOBTUSIVELY TO THE FRONT RANK. PROBABLY ONE OF THE FAVOURITES IN THIS STAR-STUDDED LIN-UP. HAS COME SECOND TWICE AND THIRD ONCE IN 1988 COMPETITIONS.

### NICE GUY (BEN GROENEN)

THIS SUNNY NATURED COLT SPORED OUT OF SHEERFUL STABBER" AND "HASTLY GRIN" IS EVERYBODY'S SENTIMENTAL FAVOURITE. HAS THE SKILLS BUT LACKS THAT EXTRA EDGE OF FINELY HONED RUTHLESSNESS. SUGGEST A CHANGE OF DIET WITH THE POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF RAW MEAT INTO HIS NOSEBAG. COULD SHOW ENOUGH FLASHES OF CARNIVEROUS MACHISMO TO MAKE IT TO THE FINALS HOWEVER.

### PRIDE OF HAWTHORN (BILL BROWN)

ANOTHER HAPPY HOOVER. POSSIBLY THE MOST PLEASANT AND POLITE PLAYER EVER TO INSERT A DAGGER INTO A FRIEND'S BACK. IN GOOD FORM AFTER HIS FINALS APPEARANCE AT EXPO AND SADD, AND SURE TO MAKE AN IMPACT AT CANCON. MAY BE LACKING IN KILLER INSTINCT ALTHOUGH THIS COULD BE A BRILLIANT RUSE.

### STARR CRAZY (GEORGE SMIRNOW)

SURELY THE MOST ENTHUSIASTIC GALLOPER EVER TO PRANCE ON FOUR HOOVES. THIS TOP THOROUGHBRED HAS A HEART AS BIG AS HIS MOUTH AND IS SURE TO THROW HIS HEFTY FRAME INTO THIS CHAMPIONSHIP BID. HIS DIPLOMATIC TECHNIQUE IS HIGH PRESSURE AND PERSISTENT, ALONG THE LINES OF A USED CAR SALESMAN DRIVING A MACK TRUCK. HAS WON 2 OF THE 3 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS IN 1988.

### HARRY, THE PUNTERS FRIEND ODDS.

14 ARTHUR ST, FORBESVILLE NSW 2001

\* MAXIMUM BET ON EACH PLAYER \$200

\* BETS ACCEPTED UP UNTIL 12 NOON ON THE LAST DAY OF PLAY.

\* MONEY REFUNDED IN FULL FOR BETS MADE ON THOSE PLAYERS WHO DON'T TURN UP.

NAME	TO WIN	TO PLACE
SATANIC MAJESTY	5-1	1-2
MR CONSISTENT RISEING STAR	4-1	1-1
TERRY'S MATE PRIDE OF HAWTHORN STARR CRAZY	6-1	3-2
RON QUIXOTE QUEEN OF STABS THAT'S AMORE WINDER'S MATE STATESMAN CRASHING BOER	8-1	2-1
STORMTROOPER BIRD OF PREY	9-1	5-2
YOUNG UPSTART GREY POWER NICE GUY VICTOR VICTORIANA TRUE GRIT WILD CARD	10-1	3-1
THINK POSITIVE THE SAINT YOUNG BLOOD	12-1	5-1
EXCITABLE BOY	15-1	8-1
TENDERFOOT	20-1	10-1

ELEVEN

(BETS ON ALL OTHER COMPETITORS ACCEPTED AT 20-1/10-1)

# Tournaments

## AUSTRALIAN TOURNAMENT RATINGS 1988.

BY MICHAEL HOPTON

As I was about to prepare this listing, I received a new version of STAB from the guru. I didn't like the previous versions due to the common disagreement between STAB scores and final center counts, and I feel that the position at the end of the game is more important than STAB allowed. Andrew has overcome this problem by increasing the victory point pool by 10 and averaging this with the score.

My last article was cut by Mike so I will explain that LT stood for last turn. Therefore LT CENTRE COUNT was the number of centres in the last turn and LT STAB was the STAB score for the last turn only (ie position).

The four columns this time are New STAB, Old STAB, POSITION on the last turn, CENTRES held on the last turn. The line beneath the titles tells how the scores are averaged. STAB scores start from 1902, all years are considered and totals are divided by the number of games + 1. The others start on the last turn and totals are divided by the number of games.

There are two causes for changes in rank from the last list to this one. The first is the addition of SADC results and the second is changes to the rating system, for example removal of the 4/3 multiplier. Any change to the rating system can have profound effects on the rankings. This is due to the closeness of the scores and small number of games played by many people.

The high scoring countries at SADC were in order Turkey, France and England. The gap between these three and the other four countries was very considerable. Turkey's improved performance is due to the long games at SADC. Also neither Turkey nor France were eliminated at SADC.

France regains the top spot from Germany, lost after the anti-French EXPO and Turkey is finally out of the last position. Italy and Austria still struggle in the bottom half of the order.

Andrew England's position on top of the ladder seems unassailable due to his 18 centre victory at CanCon, despite an elimination at EXPO. This is a definite incentive to win games.

Neil Smark and Rob Wessels continue their form and remain near the top. Rob also has an elimination against his name, which just goes to show what a mean Diplomat he is. James Vickers retained his ranking, but Mike Gibson took a plunge due to a very bad game at SADC. Ben Groenen also fell a few spots, but holds the record for the most tournament games, despite playing in only one final round. Congratulations Ben.

George Smirnow and Bill Brown, having put in very good performances at SADC, climb several notches, while Alan Howard and Frank Meerbach make big gains through the lower order. SADC saw six new entries to the listing, the highest being by Simon Miles in 17th position.

Nearly one hundred people played 54 games at the four tournaments in 1988. This is an average of 4 games per person, which shows that too many people are attending only one tournament. Initial indications for 1989 look promising, for increases in both number of people and the number of tournament games played. Next year I also hope to get results from WA and QLD tournaments, if such beasts can be organized.

See you at Cancon 89.

#### 1988 COMBINED TOURNAMENT RATINGS

Rank	Player	NEWSTB 02AL/+	STAB 02AL/+	POSITI LTAL/1	CENTRE LTAL/1	Games	Wins	Survs
1	ANDREW ENGLAND	4.770	5.872	5.714	9.286	7	1	5
2	NEIL SMARK	4.319	5.819	5.125	7.417	12	0	12
3	ROBERT WESSELS	4.021	5.228	5.318	7.455	11	0	10
4	HARRY KOLATAS	3.978	5.360	5.571	8.286	7	0	7
5	DARRYL WINDER	3.935	5.318	5.875	7.750	4	0	4
6	IAN KASPURA	3.875	4.867	4.875	8.750	4	0	4
7	NEIL ASHWORTH	3.866	5.107	5.071	7.286	7	0	7
8	GEORGE SMIRNOW	3.819	5.099	5.045	6.727	11	0	11
9	TERRY TOLHURST	3.814	4.993	5.875	8.000	4	0	4
10	MARION ASHWORTH	3.774	5.142	5.833	7.500	6	0	6
11	JAMES VICKERS	3.728	5.140	4.929	6.429	7	0	6
12	MIKE GIBSON	3.679	4.962	5.000	6.400	10	0	9
13	IAN CASTLE	3.651	4.666	5.000	8.000	4	0	4
14	PETER DYDUSIAK	3.628	4.785	5.000	7.500	4	0	4
15	BILL BROWN	3.627	4.859	4.500	6.400	10	0	9
16	BEN GROENEN	3.406	4.724	4.615	5.462	13	0	13
17	SIMON MILES	3.398	4.326	5.000	8.000	3	0	3
18	MICHAEL HOPTON	3.376	4.516	5.250	6.333	6	0	6
19	TOM DRAKE-BROCKMAN	3.357	4.490	5.375	6.750	4	0	4
20	JUAN MEDIN	3.351	4.232	5.750	7.500	4	0	4
21	PETER CLARK	3.314	4.431	4.800	6.400	5	0	5
22	JOHN CAIN	3.279	4.778	4.375	5.375	8	0	8
23	ROBERT NASH	3.213	4.161	5.000	7.333	3	0	3
24	DAVID WHEATLEY	3.205	4.515	4.625	5.750	4	0	4
25	STEVE GOULD	3.174	4.465	4.417	5.333	6	0	5
26	MAT GIBSON	3.019	3.824	4.143	6.143	7	0	7
27	ALAN HOWARD	3.007	4.074	4.250	5.500	6	0	5
28	MICHAEL FLOYD	2.944	4.182	3.917	4.833	6	0	6
29	WOJTEK CZARNOCKI	2.882	4.014	4.000	5.667	3	0	3
30	BEN AVERLING	2.876	4.208	3.667	5.000	3	0	2
31	FRANK MEERBACH	2.792	3.995	3.917	4.500	6	0	5
32	RON HANCOCK	2.777	4.009	4.333	5.000	3	0	2
33	ROBERT BROWN	2.767	3.887	7.000	8.000	1	0	1
34	DAVID SIMMS	2.767	3.613	5.000	7.000	2	0	2
35	STEVE WHEATLEY	2.766	3.782	4.333	5.667	3	0	3

Rank	Player	NEWSTB 02AL/+	STAB 02AL/+	POSITI LTAL/1	CENTRE LTAL/1	Games	Wins	Survs
36	SCOTT DENTON	2.659	3.788	3.833	4.333	6	0	5
37	CRAIG SEDGWICK	2.652	3.452	4.000	6.000	3	0	2
38	CHRIS WADE	2.623	3.599	4.333	5.333	3	0	3
39	THORIN MUNRO	2.600	3.758	4.167	4.667	3	0	3
40	ROGER BROWN	2.499	3.764	4.333	4.000	3	0	2
41	RICHARD MORRISON	2.441	3.235	4.333	5.333	3	0	2
42	ANDREW O'BRIEN	2.350	3.464	3.500	3.500	6	0	5
43	ADRIAN FEGAN	2.347	3.635	2.917	3.000	6	0	5
44	MARTIN KLOOSTERMAN	2.339	3.339	3.833	4.333	3	0	3
45	WENDY TRACEY	2.320	2.992	4.167	5.333	3	0	3
46	STEPHEN PHILLIPS	2.284	2.921	6.500	8.000	1	0	1
47	ROWAN MUNRO	2.244	3.356	3.000	3.667	3	0	2
48	JOHN BRATTAN	2.230	3.019	5.500	7.000	1	0	1
49	RICHARD ASHEN	2.205	2.763	4.167	5.333	3	0	3
50	DARIUS WEST	2.194	3.070	3.750	4.000	4	0	3
51	IVO JURENKA	2.183	3.234	3.167	3.667	3	0	3
52	SIMON JENKINSON	2.173	2.802	4.000	5.000	3	0	2
53	PAUL WARD	2.042	3.054	3.333	3.333	3	0	3
54	GREG CALDER	2.040	3.154	2.667	3.000	3	0	3
55	DOUGALL MCCULLOCH	1.962	2.483	5.000	7.000	1	0	1
56	NICK HORGAN	1.957	2.576	3.000	4.333	3	0	1
57	JIM VENN	1.933	2.630	3.333	4.000	3	0	2
58	DAVID MUNDT	1.923	2.747	3.500	4.000	2	0	2
59	STEPHEN SIMMONDS	1.918	3.116	3.333	2.333	3	0	2
60	MATT BERGER	1.901	2.362	4.000	7.000	1	0	1
61	CARL TEMPLE	1.887	2.744	4.000	5.000	1	0	1
62	CLIVE LANE	1.868	2.398	2.667	4.333	3	0	1
63	MICHAEL STUART	1.756	2.792	2.667	2.333	3	0	3
64	ANDREW WHEATLEY	1.715	2.504	3.167	3.000	3	0	3
65	DUNCAN BAXTER	1.697	2.468	2.667	3.000	3	0	2
66	DUNCAN SPARROW	1.591	2.462	2.667	2.333	3	0	2
67	ANTHONY D'ADAM	1.587	2.350	2.333	2.667	3	0	2
68	JAMES ASHTON	1.549	1.966	2.000	3.667	3	0	3
69	DEREK MYERS	1.511	2.199	2.333	2.667	3	0	1
70	MARK LYCETTE	1.504	2.391	2.000	1.800	5	0	1
71	JONATHAN HEANEY	1.491	2.296	2.500	2.500	2	0	1
72	ERIC WORRALL	1.467	2.110	4.000	4.000	1	0	1
73	GEOFFREY MACKNISH	1.435	2.560	2.500	1.000	3	0	2
74	PETER HICKMAN	1.368	2.220	2.333	1.667	3	0	1
75	GORDON LEMAIRE	1.366	2.321	2.000	1.333	3	0	2
76	WARNER AIREY	1.275	1.863	2.500	2.500	2	0	1
77	IAIN RALPH	1.262	1.865	2.500	2.000	4	0	3
78	SCOTT WADE	1.220	2.028	1.667	1.333	3	0	1
79	ANTHONY MATOSOVICH	0.982	1.553	1.667	1.333	3	0	2
80	ANTHONY DOUGLAS	0.936	1.563	1.833	1.000	3	0	1
81	ROBERT STEVENSON	0.899	1.488	1.500	1.000	3	0	2
82	GAVAN HUNTER	0.861	1.413	1.833	1.000	3	0	2
83	RICHARD BIDDLE	0.861	1.619	1.167	0.333	3	0	1
84	JEFF RICKARD	0.806	1.611	1.000	0.000	3	0	0

Rank	Player	NEWSTB 02AL/+	STAB 02AL/+	POSITI LTAL/1	CENTRE LTAL/1	Games	Wins	Survs
85	IAN WHITCHURCH	0.642	1.284	1.000	0.000	3	0	0
86	ANDREW TUCKER	0.635	1.271	1.000	0.000	3	0	0
87	ADRIAN WOOD	0.500	0.999	1.000	0.000	3	0	0
88	JAMES WALKER	0.375	0.750	1.000	0.000	1	0	0
89	PHIL GRINSTIEN	0.339	0.679	1.000	0.000	1	0	0
=	TIM FRIEDRICH	0.339	0.679	1.000	0.000	1	0	0
91	PAT DHYON	0.333	0.667	1.000	0.000	1	0	0
92	MONTY WILD	0.271	0.542	1.000	0.000	1	0	0
93	DAVID KING	0.250	0.500	1.000	0.000	1	0	0
=	MARTYN WEBSTER	0.250	0.500	1.000	0.000	1	0	0

1	FRANCE	3.612	5.009	4.407	5.556	54	0	49
2	ENGLAND	3.462	4.760	4.185	5.352	54	0	41
3	TURKEY	3.340	4.366	4.157	5.722	54	0	43
4	GERMANY	3.338	4.738	3.898	4.796	54	0	39
5	RUSSIA	2.936	4.196	3.593	4.222	54	0	43
6	AUSTRIA	2.932	4.178	3.519	4.056	54	1	38
7	ITALY	2.812	3.944	3.519	4.296	54	0	47

### NEW SOUTH WALES CHAMPIONSHIPS 7

BY M.H.

The placings at the end of the 1988 NSW Diplomacy Championships,  
Part of The Diplomacy Expo.  
Organiser: Luke Clutterbuck.

1st Darryl Winder	16th Ben Groenen	29th Greg Calder	43rd Scott Wade
2nd Terry Tolhurst	17th Ron Hancock	30th Richard Morrison	44th James Ashton
3rd Robert Wessels	18th Thorin Munro	31st Adrian Fagan	45th Richard Biddle
4th David Wheatley	19th Steve Wheatley	32nd Michael Stuart	46th Jonathan Heaney
5th Tom Drake Brockman	20th Roger Brown	33rd Frank Meerbach	47th Anthony Douglas
6th Bill Brown	21st Andrew England	34th George Smirnow	48th Gavan Hunter
7th Juan Medin		35th Simon Jenkinson	49th Steven Phillips

8th Marion Ashworth	22nd Michael Floyd	36th Richard Ashen	50th John Bratton
9th Michael Hopton	23rd Neil Ashworth	37th Wendy Tracey	51st Cyril D'Sorder !!
10th Michael Gibson	24th Chris Wade	38th Andrew Wheatley	52nd Piotr Dyduziak
11th John Cain	25th Scott Denton	39th Anthony D'Adam	53rd David Kang
12th Harry Kolotas	26th Martin Kloosterman	40th Gordon Lemaire	
13th Steve Gould	27th Rowan Munro	41st David Mundt	
14th Robert Nash	28th Ivo Jurenka	42nd Andrew O'Brian	

Bourse 1st Gavan Hunter  
Bourse 2nd Thorin Munro  
Best Junior Wojtek Czarnocki  
Most Sporting Ben Groenen  
Best Costume Luke Clutterbuck

### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 7

#### Official Placings and Awards

1) George Smirnow	6.574 (1988 S.A. Diplomacy Champion).
2) Neil Smark	6.242
3) Bill Brown	6.095
4) Simon Miles	5.768
5) James Vickers	5.677
6) Alan Howard	5.325
7) Robert Wessels	4.700

Variants Tournament: 1st - John Cain, 2nd - Michael Gibson,  
3rd - Warner Airey.

Winner - Second Board: Ben Aveling.

Best Sports: Bill Brown, Michael Hopton, Neil Smark, Rob Wessels,  
James Vickers.

Best Lunch: Mat Gibson.

Most Spectacular Spectator: Katrina.

Best Score: Michael Gibson (8.279) as France in "Howard".

Worst Score: Michael Gibson (1.000) as Russia in "Calder".

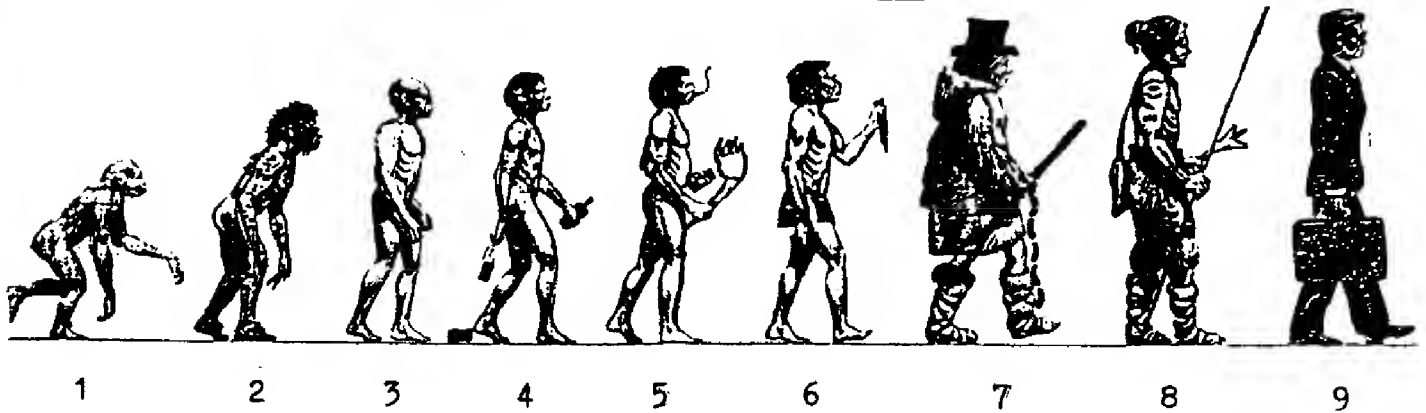
Special Mention: John Cain for his invaluable assistance to the GM.

Other players: Mat Berger, John Foe,  
Joe Bloggs.

FIFTEEN



# THE ASCENT OF DIPLO-MAN



- 1 IDIUS DIPPUS  
STICKUS { 5,000,000 - ???? years. Earliest known ancestor. All known living species evolved from this first semi-intelligent 'ape'. Lack of adaptive ability (and intelligence) led to it's extinction, but evolution was still able to make use of this 'proto-Diplo-man'.
- 2 SIMIAN WOLFUS  
MILUS { 2,000,000 - 3,000,000 years. A dead-end in the evolutionary tree, Wolfus probably died out due to it's lack of communicative skills. Origin of werewolf legend?
- 3 BOOBUS HOWARDUS { 1,500,000 - 2,000,000 years. Earliest example of Dip-kind with language and symbol skills. Examples of it's written work exist, but remain a puzzle. Became extinct during Ice-Age due to lack of facial hair.
- 4 NEILUS SMARKUS { 1,000,000 - 1,500,000 years. Invented alcohol, and paid for it when, after discovering beer, drank themselves to extinction. Many known sites of it's 'stubby' piles exist.
- 5 GEORGUS SMIRMAN { 500,000 - 1,000,000 years. Irrepressible communicator, caused mass migrations of animals by their fear of Smirman's presence. Creator of fire, and of accompanying 'firesticks'. Worshipped 'Smoke' God.
- 6 HOMO-DIPLOMUS { 300,000 - 500,000 years. Breakthrough in evolutionary ladder. Homo-Diplomus showed first real civilised behaviour. Travelled in groups of seven, with an eighth member, the GM, as leader. GM would keep order with club or 'head-breaker'. Eventually group violence and homicide brought about extinction.
- 7 LUKUS CLUTTER  
BUCKUS { 200,000 - 500,000 years. A further step toward 'civilisation'. Lukus organised large groups of Homo-Diplomus to meet in one place, and is thought to have been able to stop them tearing themselves limb from limb. Symbolic club and hat denoted authority. Invented sausage.
- 8 HOMO-SAPIEN { \*\* SEE 'MAN'.
- 9 ANDII CIVIL  
SERVUS { The highest form of Diplo-Man known. Brilliant spacial and persuasive abilities put it above all others. Only flaws: officious manner and emotional instability. The 'TOP' of the evolutionary tree: What will evolution do now?

# Article

BY IAN WHITCHURCH

I HAVE JUST RECEIVED A RHETORICAL-MONOLOGUE-BY-MAIL FROM GEORGE SMIRNOW, ARGUING WITH EVERY Ounce OF HIS NOT-INCONSIDERABLE FORCE OF PERSONALITY AGAINST THE USE OF THE STAB OR STARS RATING SYSTEMS IN TOURNAMENTS SITUATIONS. I AGREE WITH HIM TOTALLY. IN FACT, I GO FURTHER THAN HIM. I DON'T BELIEVE THEY SHOULD BE USED AT ALL.

HIS BASIC ARGUMENT IS SUMMED UP IN A CHART SHOWING AN ADMITTEDLY EXTREME CASE; A BALANCED GAME WITH AN EARLY FRONT-RUNNER AND AN EARLY LAGGARD. ON THE FINAL TWO TURNS, THE FRONT-RUNNER GETS BLITZED AND THE LAGGARD RECOVERS TO LEAD THE PACK. THE FRONT-RUNNER HAS A STAB AVERAGE OF 6:100 AND THE LAGGARD 1:600. THIS IS CLEARLY AN ANOMALOUS RESULT; AND ONE THAT TOO OFTEN OCCURS UNDER THE STAB SYSTEM; A "PACK" OF 3-5 DEVELOPS, ALL ROUGHLY 10-EQUAL IN POWER (ie 6, 6, 7 OR 10, 12, 12) BUT WILDLY DIVERGENT IN STAB POINTS.

GEORGE THEN SUGGESTS THAT THE "SHORT GAME" RULES BE USED (ie THE LEADER ON CENTRES IS RULED TO HAVE WON). THIS IS EQUALLY RIDICULOUS, ESPECIALLY SEEING MOST TOURNAMENT GAMES GO ONLY TO 100 OR SO. HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU SEEN A GAME DEGENERATE INTO A MAD SCRAMBLE OF CENTRE-SNATCHING, JUST BECAUSE THE TIME IS TICKING TOWARDS 11 PM (OR WHATEVER)? IS IT REALLY FAIR TO AWARD VICTORY TO A POWER ON 13 CENTRES, WHEN HE IS HEMMED IN (AND INDEED, BEING SLOWLY ABSORBED) BY A COALITION OF SMALLER OPPONENTS? WHAT IF 3 POWERS EXIST ON 13, 12 AND 9 CENTRES; FROM THAT POSITION, ANY OF THE THREE COULD WIN. AND IT GETS WORSE WITH "PACKS" OF FOUR OR FIVE

HERE ENDETH MY COMMENTARY ON GEORGE'S IDEAS, AND BEGINS MY TWO-CENTS WORTH ON TOURNAMENT RATING SYSTEMS AND RUNNING TOURNAMENTS IN GENERAL.

THE BASIC PROBLEM WITH TOURNAMENT DIPLOMACY IS TIME. THERE IS ONLY SO MUCH DIP YOU CAN FIT IN IN THREE DAYS OF PLAY. THE STANDARD SOLUTION HAS BEEN TWO DAYS OF 'HEATS' (THREE OR FOUR HOURS APiece) AND A LAST-DAY FINAL. I PROPOSE A MUCH BETTER ONE; YOU TREAT THE TOURNAMENT JUST LIKE YOU WOULD TREAT A ZINE. SAY YOU HAVE THIRTY PEOPLE ATTENDING. FOUR GAMES OF DIPLOMACY START AND TWO PEOPLE GO ON A WAITING LIST. AS PLAYERS GET KNOCKED OUT, THEY JOIN THE WAITING LIST. AS SOON AS THE WAITING LIST HAS SEVEN PEOPLE, IN IT, YOU START ANOTHER GAME. CONTINUE UNTIL THE END OF THE CON, OR UNTIL THE FINAL IS DUE TO START.

SIMPLE, MUH. YOU GET LOTS OF GAMES, PEOPLE WIPED OUT IN FALL '02 DON'T HAVE TO WAIT FOUR HOURS FOR ANOTHER GAME, GAMES CAN BE PLAYED TO COMPLETION (I CANNOT OVEREMPHASIZE THIS POINT, AS IT IS AT THE CORE OF ALL TOURNAMENT DIP'S PROBLEMS.) AND PEOPLE CAN WANDER AWAY FOR A FEW HOURS TO GET LUNCH OR CHECK OUT THE REST OF THE CON.

THE ABOVE HAS A MINOR PROBLEM WITH RATING PEOPLE, BECAUSE ONE PLAYER MAY

HAVE PLAYED BUT TWO GAMES AND ANOTHER FIVE. THIS IS HOWEVER, EASILY SOLVED BY USING A "ZERO-SUM" CALAMBER POINT OR GENGHIS KHAN SYSTEM.

ONE LAST POINT. LUNCH. RATHER THAN SPLITTING UP FOR AN HOUR EACH DAY, WHY NOT CENTRALIZE THINGS BY EVERYONE GIVING THE ORGANISER FIVE BUCKS OR SO, AND HIM ORDERING OUT FOR PIZZA, KENTUCKY FRIED, A FEW LOAVES OF BREAD AND SPREADS ETC... WHICH ARE THEN TAKEN INTO THE GAME ROOM AND EATEN SMORGASBOARD STYLE.

THAT'S IT. MAY I MAKE THE USUAL PRO-FORMA REQUESTS FOR EVERYONE TO TRY AND GET TO AS MANY CONS AS POSSIBLE, BECAUSE CON-ENJOYMENT IS A EXPONENTIAL FUNCTION OF PEOPLE ATTENDING. HECK I'M EVEN TRAVELLING 1000 KM TO GET TO GANCON 09.

## A NOTE ON ZERO-SUM RATING SYSTEMS

### ZERO-SUM CALAMBER POINT

IN THE CP SYSTEM, ONE POINT IS AWARDED PER GAME. THE WINNER GETS IT. IN THE CASE OF A DRAW, IT IS SHARED EQUALLY AMONG ALL PARTICIPANTS.

A ZERO-SUM C-P SYSTEM IS SIMILAR TO THE ABOVE, EXCEPT THAT EVERYONE NOT IN THE WIN OR DRAW LOSES POINTS SUFFICIENT SO THAT POINTS LOST = POINTS GAINED.

EXAMPLE: IF ONE PLAYER WINS, HE GETS 1 POINT. EVERYBODY ELSE LOSES  $\frac{1}{6}$  OF A POINT.

FOUR PLAYER DRAW. THEY GET  $\frac{1}{4}$  OF A POINT EACH. THE OTHER THREE EACH LOSE  $\frac{1}{3}$  OF A POINT. GOT IT?

### ZERO-SUM GENGHIS KHAN:

IN A NORMAL G-K, THE WINNER GETS (16 + HIS #CENTRES) POINTS, AND SURVIVORS LOSE (THEIR #CENTRES  $\times$  WINNER CENTRES) POINTS. ELIM-

INATION GETS NO POINTS. IN A DRAW, 18 POINTS ARE SHARED EQUALLY AMONG ALL PARTICIPANTS. IN A Z-S G-K, EVERYONE NOT IN THE WIN OR DRAW LOSES SUFFICIENT POINTS SO THAT POINTS GAINED = POINTS LOST.

EXAMPLE: TWO PLAYERS DRAW. THEY GET +9 APiece. EVERYBODY ELSE LOSES  $\frac{9}{3}$  POINTS

ENGLAND WINS ON 10. TURKEY IS ON 10, RUSSIA 3, ITALY 2 AND AUSTRIA 1. ENGLAND GETS +34 POINTS, TURKEY GETS -13, RUSSIA -6, ITALY -5, AUSTRIA -4, FRANCE -3, GERMANY -3.

### ADVANTAGES OF Z-S SYSTEMS

THE MAIN ADVANTAGE IS THAT IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MANY GAMES ARE PLAYED, EVERYONE'S RATINGS SUM TO ZERO. THIS MEANS IF DARYL KIBBLE HAS PLAYED 41 GAMES AND FIVE PLAYED THREE. OUR RATINGS WILL STILL BE COMPARABLE. NON-COMPARABILITY IS THE CHIEF BANE OF MANY LONG-TERM RATING SYSTEMS; IS FRED NEWCOMER (WHO HAS WON ONE GAME OUT OF FIVE STARTS) A BETTER PLAYER THAN JOE OLDTIMER (WHO HAS WON THREE OUT OF FORTY)?

# 1988 AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY PLAYERS' SURVEY

This year's survey received a total of 43 responses, which was a reasonable result. Most of the experienced hobby figures responded, so a few topics of controversy may be settled (eg. tournament ratings etc.). Anyway, on with the show...

## 1 Age

0-19: 27.9%    20-24: 23.3%    25-29: 18.6%    30-34: 16.3%    35+: 13.9%

The average was 25.1 years. Of special interest was Adrian Appleyard's response. Rumour has it that he is 15, yet he claims to be 35. Obviously he looks up to the oldies like George and Greg, the oldest members of our hobby at the wrinkled age of 37.

## 2 Most Skilled Postal Diplomacy Player

	votes		votes
1. Bill Brown	13	Greg Long	10
George Smirnow	13	7. Bob Howard	9
3. Neil Ashworth	12	8. Michael Gibson	6
Andrew England	12	9. Marion Ashworth	5
5. Steven Bagshaw	10	Darryl Davis	5

3-Luke Clutterbuck, Tom-Drake Brockman, Piotr Dydusiak, Michael Hopton, Harry Kolotas, Neil Smark.

2-Terry Bradley, John Cain, Wojtek Czarnocki, Steve Gould, Alan Howard, Ken Sproat, Luther Weate, Robert Wessels, Darryl Winder.

So last year's winner Bill Brown makes it two in a row, but finds himself having to share the honour with Gorgeous George Smirnow. Of special note are the Ashworths, who both received large numbers of votes considering the relatively small number of games they have played. Incidentally, both the winners voted for Neil.

## 3 Best GameMaster

	votes		votes
1. Michael Gibson	12	Nick Manning	4
2. Neil Ashworth	10	Paul Ward	4
Luke Clutterbuck	10	Robert Wessels	4
4. Andrew England	8	11. Bill Brown	3
5. Steven Bagshaw	7	Michael Hopton	3
6. Alan Howard	5	Bob Howard	3
7. John Cain	4	14. Marion Ashworth	2

## 4 Best Diplomacy Zine

	votes/avg.		votes/avg.
1. The Envoy	32    7.92	5. The Journal of Aust. Dip.	24    7.08
2. Beowulf	28    7.61	6. The Gunship	17    6.47
3. Victoriana	37    7.46	7. The Go-Between	35    5.07
4. Diplomatic Immunity	31    7.21		

The demise of Beowulf saw many people either giving lower or no ratings for last year's winner. Nevertheless, The Envoy's win was well deserved. Overall scores were a lot lower than last year's, showing the increased competitiveness of the hobby. Next year should see at least 3 new zines included in the survey.

## 5 Number of Zines Australia Should Support

0-4: 13%    5-10: 42%    11-20: 8%    20+: 11%    1 per 50 players: 2%    As many as possible: 16%    Infinite: 8%.

## 6 Money Spent on PBM Diplomacy per Week (\$)

0-4: 56%    5-10: 28%    10-20: 4%    20+: 2%  
Range: 0-25    Average: \$6.04

## 7 Money Spent on Other PBM Games per Week (\$)

Range: 0-20      Average: \$2.96

#### 8 Money Spent on non-PBM Game per Week (\$)

Range: 0-20      Average: \$1.96

#### 9 Ratings for the Ratings Systems

	votes/avg.			votes/avg.	
1. STAB! (MarkI)	33	6.58	5. Nelson Kinzett	18	4.44
2. STAB White Knights	22	5.75	6. SCAB	17	4.06
3. STARRPOWER	25	4.92	7. SCAR	17	4.03
4. STARR	24	4.79	8. Genghis Khan	17	3.29

"I just play and let the Tech-heads work out how well I'm doing it." comments Mr. Appleyard. Still, the systems most familiar to players were the ones that were most popular. Smimow gave STAB! a 6, while England gave STARRPOWER a 6. They both gave their own systems a 10, though.

#### 10 One or More Rating Systems

One: 26%    Many: 70%    Some: 2%    None: 2%

#### 11 Extent Ratings Systems Affect Play (1-10)

Average: 2.54    1's: 25    10's: 1

Five people gave separate ratings for tournament play, ranging from 5 to 10, averaging 7.60.

#### 12 Number of Overseas Zines Subscribed To

0: 70%    1-2: 14%    3-5: 9%    6+: 7%

Range: 0-15      Average: 1.5%

#### 13 Ever Attended a Convention

Yes: 67%    No: 33%

#### 14 How Many FTF non-Gunboat Games Played per Year

0-1: 26%    2-5: 18%    6-10: 35%    10+: 21%

Average: 6.39

Gavin Begbie responds..."I hate Gunboat." Perhaps you would like to answer the question next time, Gavin?

#### 15 How Should Players be Rated at Tournaments

STAB!: 31%    STARR: 3%    STARRPOWER: 0%    Centres at end: 18%    Victories and placings: 17%    Other: 31%

Bob Howard feels that people should not know which system is being used at all. Greg Long voted for many systems to be used.

#### 16 Favourite Musical Style

Rosck: 10 votes,    Speed Metal: 2    None: 2    Many: 2    60's: 2    Electro-Pop: 2  
Ambience: 2

Other interesting answers included Duncan Sparrow's "Baroque + renaissance + techno-pop" and Harry Kolotas's "Bouzouki"

#### 17 Favourite Sport

Basketball: 7 votes    Aussie-rules: 5    Cricket: 4    Soccer: 3    Tennis: 3    Many: 2  
Martial Arts: 2

John Dods cited "muff diving" as his favourite; perhaps he isn't so deviant after all. George Smimow likes "kicking a ball".

#### 18 Favourite TV Show

Hey Hey...3 votes    Black Adder: 3    LA Law: 3    None: 3    Callan: 2    The News:2

#### 19 Favourite Movie

None: 3 votes

I think that's all we need for this question.

**20 Which Country will Win a Gunboat Game with Equally Skilled Players**

Austria: 2.5%    England: 5.0%    France: 27.5%    Germany: 2.5%    Italy: 0%    Russia: 7.5%  
Turkey: 20.0%    None: 17.5%

Other responses included "Gunboat sux", "Fuck off", "No idea"

**21 Which Country will Win a Normal Game with Equally Skilled Players**

Austria: 2.5%    England: 9.5%    France: 11.9%    Germany: 7.1%    Russia: 9.5%    Italy: 0%  
Turkey: 4.8%    None: 30.9%

**22 Which is the Most Challenging Country**

Austria: 34.2%    England: 0%    France: 0%    Germany: 15.8%    Italy: 26.3%    Russia: 10.5%  
Turkey: 2.6%    All: 7.9%

Marion Ashworth considers New Zealand to be the most challenging country.

**23 Should the Centrespread Poll be Conducted Annually**

Yes: 85%    No: 15%

George Smirnow, who conducted the inaugural Centrespread Poll this year responded "No, never again." Other "No" voters were Bill Brown, John Cain, Piotr Dydusiak, Craig Sedgewick and Neil Ashworth - all important figures in the Dip world. Most people want it however, but who is going to do it???

**24 Best Articles**

	votes		votes
1. Bismark Lectures/A.Bismark	10	5. A CanCon Dispatch/H.Kolotas	2
2. The Sproats/H.Kolotas	5	John Cain at WorldCon/J.Cain	2
3. Starr Wars/B.Brown	4	Roots/R.Wessels	2
4. A Novice at CanCon/C.Lane	3	Thinking Long and Hard/G.Long	2

Many other articles received one vote.

**25 Who Will Win CanCon 89**

	votes		votes
1. Neil Smark	6	Luke Clutterbuck	2
3. Marion Ashworth	3	Andrew England	2
Robert Wessels	3	Michael Hopton	2
8. Neil Ashworth	2	No Idea	2

I shall look with interest at my records in January to see if anyone managed to predict the winner correctly.

**26 Should "ASwe s AStP-Nwy, AFin-Nwy" be considered to mean "ASwe s AFin-Nwy, Fin-Nwy."**

Yes: 11.9%    No: 83.3%

Andrew England remarks that there is not enough information in this question. However, I feel that most people would have assumed that there was no army in StP. None of the people who voted yes are GMs. Craig Sedgewick comments "Nonononono"

**27 First Dip Player Ever Written To**

	votes		votes
1. Don't Remember	5	Peter Kahlbaum	2
2. Steven Bagshaw	2	Eric Roche	2
Michael Gibson	2	Richard Williams	2
Bob Howard	2		

George Smirnow demanded that I put this question in this survey, saying that it was "important" Hmmm...

**28a Favourite Game Played In**

	votes		votes
1. Fire Drake	5	Odin	2

2. Khemlani	3	Snow White	2
Utopia	3	Stackpole	2
4. Nicholas	2		

Five of the seven players of Fire Drake voted for it, which says a lot for a game which featured intense negotiations in the first few years and thrilling tactics and stabs since then. If only all games were this good. Actually if they were, the heart attack rate for Dip players would soar.

#### 28b Favourite Game Haven't Played In

	votes		votes
1. Fire Drake	6	4. Nicholas	2
2. Utopia	5	Odin	2
3. A.C.D.	3		

#### 29 Most Trusted Players

	votes		votes
1. Steven Bagshaw	7	Myself	3
George Smirnow	7	No-One	3
3. James Vickers	6	13. Neil Ashworth	2
4. Greg Long	5	Marianne Clark	2
5. Marion Ashworth	4	John Dods	2
Bob Howard	4	Michael Gibson	2
7. Bill Brown	3	Michael Hopton	2
Alan Howard	3	Harry Kolotas	2
Peter Quail	3	Simon Miles	2
Neil Smark	3	Robert Wessels	2

Gorgeous George wins again, well above the other best player, Bill Brown. James Vickers polled very well - having only ever been attacked mercilessly by him, I can't see why. Andrew England received a single vote - the worst result of all the seven top players in Question 2.

#### 30 Least Trusted Players

	votes		votes
1. Andrew England	11	6. Piotr Dydusiak	4
2. Bob Howard	9	George Smirnow	4
3. Steven Bagshaw	7	8. Adrian Appleyard	3
4. Neil Ashworth	6	Michael Gibson	3
5. Mathew Gibson	5	Neil Smark	3

And so Andrew's reputation worsens, until this.....

#### 31 Players Most Like to be Eliminated

	votes		votes
1. Andrew England	19	8. Greg Calder	3
2. Neil Ashworth	7	Luke Clutterbuck	3
3. Bob Howard	6	Mathew Gibson	3
George Smirnow	6	Michael Gibson	3
5. Neil Smark	5	Simon Miles	3
6. Marion Ashworth	4	Thorin Munro	3
Steven Bagshaw	4		

A resounding win to Andrew England - not even the nauseating Neil Ashworth could compete with the pure anti-charisma of Andy Satan. Thorin Munro polled three votes - not bad for such a short run in the game, while Bill Brown had only one person vote for him - a Mr Richard Biddle. Bill himself wanted to eliminate Bob, Mike and Marion, while Andrew bears grudges towards bob, Myself and Mat.

#### 32 The Most Ridiculous Thing in Diplomacy

	votes		votes
1. Bob Howard	3	4. Andrew England	2
People who take it too seriously	3	Feuds	2

One of the most interesting questions of the lot. Thankfully, only one person voted for the surveys - Neil Ashworth. Never mind, the first of all votes registered in this category was mine for him. Dip newcomer Richard Kleinberg mentions "trying to get strated", Terry Tolhurst finds plastic counters to be ridiculous! Ken sproat mentions "Waking up worrying about a game", while the Whole Australian Diplomacy Hobby is given an overview by Richard Biddle who feels that the most ridiculous thing is luke Clutterbuck's name. And why not?

### 33 Which Player will be Voted Best Player

	votes		votes
1. Andrew England	11	4. Neil Ashworth	4
2. Bill Brown	6	5. Greg Long	3
3. Bob Howard	5	George Smirnow	3

All of the top seven get a mention more than once except me. Only 9 people picked the winners, with George seemingly being a bit of a dark horse to take the crown, but did it anyway.

### 34 Which GN will be Voted Best GM

	votes		votes
1. Luke Clutterbuck	9	6. Marion Ashworth	2
2. Michael Gibson	8	Bill Brown	2
3. Steven Bagshaw	4	John Cain	2
4. Neil Ashworth	3	Andrew England	2
Paul Ward	3	Alan Howard	

Most people were fairly close with this on with over 20% of respondents to the question picking the winner, Mike Gibson. Bill Brown picked up votes in this and in "Best GM" - is this due to the reputedly very quick turn around in his U-Boat games?

### 35 Which Zine will be Voted Best Zine

	votes		votes
1. The Envoy	19	4. Victoriana	6
2. Beowulf	8	5. Diplomatic Immunity	3
3. Others	7	6. Rest	0

Spot on , Basically.

### 36 Favourite Hobby Figure

	votes		votes
1. Marion Ashworth	5	Andrew England	3
2. Neil Ashworth	3	George Smirnow	3
Bill Brown	3	7. Harry Kolotas	2
Luke Clutterbuck	3	Greg Long	2

Congratulations Marion - a good result. Despite the fact that no-one trusts him and everyone wants to eliminate him, Andrew polled well.

### 37 Who has the Most Power in the Hobby

	votes		votes
1. Luke Clutterbuck	7	5. Neil Ashworth	2
2. John Cain	4	Andrew England	2
3. Marion Ashworth	3	No One	2
Bob Howard			

The Ombudsman, Luke Clutterbuck, polled strongly in this question - whether it is the legalness of his position and conduct, or actual power involved is another matter. Luke himself voted for John, while John voted for Mike Gibson.

### 38 Rising Star of Australian Diplomacy

	votes		votes
1. Greg Long	6	Kevin Arnott	2
2. Alan Howard	3	Wojtek Czarnocki	2
3. Adrian Appleyard	2	Frank Haluszczak	2



Greg's outstanding results in most of his games have brought him to the attention of many. All votes were in before he announced his own zine, so his position as the rising star is even more definite. Alan Howard came second for his good work with The Gunship.

So that's that for 1988. If anyone has any questions about the results, feel free to write to me. If you want to know who voted for you even - I'd tell you. I'd like to acknowledge in particular Michael Gibson for typing this up, all the editors for prizes, Mark Nelson for international opinion and unsolicited sponsorship, and Luke and Adrian for further good comments.

Steven Bagshaw

#### THE COMPETITION WINNERS!

- ① 1 YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO DIPLOMACY WORLD TO THE PERSON WHO GUESSED BEST ZINE (COURTESY ANDREW ENGLAND)  
THE FOLLOWING PLAYERS ALL CORRECTLY GUESSED THE ENVOY TO BE BEST ZINE: B. BROWN, M. GIBSON, G. LONG, P. DYDUSIAK, G. SMIRNOW, R. BIDDLE, R. MUNRO, A. APPLEBYARD, K. SPROAT, C. SEDGEWICK, D. SPARROW, M. ASHWORTH, N. ASHWORTH, S. GOULD, L. CLUTTERBUCK, M. LYCETTE, M. HOPTON, H. KOLOTAS, I. WHITCHURCH - PUTTING MY HAND IN THE BARREL.....  
THE WINNER IS RICHARD BIDDLE
- ② 1 YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO THE JOURNAL OF AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY TO THE AUTHOR OF THE BEST ARTICLE  
WELL THE WINNER IS "ARTHUR BISMARCK". IF THE REAL ARTHUR BISMARCK WILL NOT STAND UP AND COLLECT HIS/HER PRIZE, HARRY KOLOTAS WILL WIN THE SUBSCRIPTION FOR WRITING THE SECOND BEST ARTICLE, "THE SPROUTS".
- ③ 1 ISSUE OF VICTORIANA TO EACH OF THE HIGHEST RANKED, MOST TRUSTED, LEAST TRUSTED, AND MOST WANTED TO BE ELIMINATED PLAYERS WHO ARE NOT YET SUBSCRIBERS.  
THEREFORE, ONE ISSUE EACH TO DARRYL DAVIS, PETER QUAIL, TERRY BRADLEY, AND GREG CALDER.
- ④ TWO ISSUES OF DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY TO THE CORRECT GUESSERS OF BEST GM AND BEST PLAYER  
B. HOWARD, G. LONG, J. CAIN, J. DODS, G. SMIRNOW, A. HOWARD, R. BIDDLE, AND M. LYCETTE ALL CORRECTLY PICKED MIKE GIBSON AS BEST GM - THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE WINNER AND IT IS GREG LONG  
P. WARD, B. BROWN, J. CAIN, K. SPROAT, D. SPARROW, AND T. MUNRO PICKED B. BROWN AS BEST PLAYER, WHILE M. GIBSON, F. HALUSZCZAK AND M. LYCETTE PICKED GEORGE SMIRNOW. THEY ARE ALL ELIGIBLE, AND THE WINNER IS MARK LYCETTE
- ⑤ TWO ISSUES OF MARK NELSON'S THE YORKSHIRE CALLANT (UK) TO HIGHEST PLACED NON-EDITOR IN GUESSING BEST PLAYER.  
THIS PUTS ALL THE ABOVE IN THE RUNNING AND DUNCAN SPARROW WINS (6 AERIAL RD, BELAIR, SA 5052, AUSTRALIA)
- ⑥ TWO ISSUES OF GUNSHIP TO THE OVERALL BEST GUESSEER. ONE ISSUE TO EACH OF THE BEST PLAYERS AND BEST GM.  
THE CHAMPION OF THE GUESSING GAMES WAS MARK LYCETTE WHO WAS THE ONLY PERSON TO CORRECTLY GUESS ALL OF THE BEST PLAYER GM AND ZINES. BILL BROWN, GEORGE SMIRNOW AND MICHAEL GIBSON ALL WIN FOR BEING MASTERS OF THE BOARD
- ⑦ ONE ISSUE OF THE ENVOY TO THE FIRST PERSON TO VOTE FOR EITHER OF TWO RANDOM PEOPLE AS BEST PLAYERS.  
MARIANNE CLARK AND GREG CALDER WERE THE PEOPLE IN QUESTION AND JEFF PERKINS WON BY PICKING MARIANNE IN HIS SURVEY RESPONSE, WHICH WAS THE 7TH I RECEIVED OVERALL.

OVER \$50 WORTH OF PRIZES GIVEN AWAY JUST FOR FILLING IN A BIT OF PAPER. AMAZING - I'D LIKE TO THANK MYSELF AND MARK NELSON FOR EXTORTING THESE PRIZES AND THE EDITORS FOR GIVING IN JUST AS I WAS ABOUT TO RIP THEIR TONGUES OUT

STEVEN BAGSHAW.

# AN INFORMAL POSTAL CONFERENCE FOR THE DIPLOMACY HOBBY IN AUSTRALIA

This postal conference has occurred to enable those interested to shout at each other in a reasonable sane manner, rather than in a drunken fit at a Diplomacy Tournament. It is, in effect, an informal poll, with my questions used as stimulators for your opinions. The original questionnaire was sent out in June 88, and has taken 4 months to wait for replies, and to process those replies. As an indicator of current opinions therefore, it is obsolete but as a comparison of general feelings on particular subjects it is still useful.

I received replies from the following people:

Luke Clutterbuck (NSW)  
Piotr Dydusiak (NSW)  
Steve Gould (NSW)  
Adrian Appleyard (Qld)  
Mathew Gibson (SA)  
Michael Hopton (SA)  
Alan Howard (SA)  
Neil Smark (SA)  
James Vickers (SA)  
Ian Whitchurch (Tas)  
Bill Brown (Vic)  
John Cain (Vic)  
Michael Gibson (Vic)  
George Smirnow (Vic)  
Steven Bagshaw (WA)  
Bob Howard (WA)  
Paul Ward (WA)

NSW-3, Qld-1, SA-5, Tas-1, Vic-4, WA-3. Total:17

John Cain typed 90% of these conference notes, out of the kindness of his heart. I don't understand why he hasn't been knighted yet. I'll be your puppet for a game at Can Con 89 John.

## THE ORIGINAL TOPICS

**WORLD DIPCON** - There are various bits of information on when we'll be asked to hold this event, and I believe that a lot depends upon the hobby politics overseas. However it might be as close as 1990, and we had better get out act together. Where should it be held, when should it be held, and what should the format be?

**RATINGS** - Oooohhh a juicy issue this. Most of you know the big problems and arguments here. Do we have the right to exclude and game from the ratings, or do we have a responsibility to future players to ensure that all games are run properly, and that all the past games included are "correct". What is correct?

**PUBLICITY** - 2 million people in Australia saw Luke get insulted on TV whilst talking about Diplomacy. This raises a few vital questions about publicity. Where should we advertise? What type of person are we trying to attract? Are hobbyists prepared to pay for slick (but limited) advertising in gaming magazines. Is publicity necessary? If Luke is prepared to stick his neck out, what can we do?

**CUSTODIANS** - What roles need filling? Who should have these jobs? How much power can/should they have?

**DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA** - What should it be and who should be in it? How can we stop the inevitable power games and bickering? Where will it get its finances and when does it meet? If a position is an elected position, then who votes for you?

**MAGAZINES** - Are there too many in the hobby relative to the talent available to contribute to them? How do we set up Editors Packs for aspiring editors? Are there market forces involved here? Do we need a zine register?

**GAMEMASTERS** - The conduct of GMs has often been brought into question. How do we protect players, and how do we help GMs? Who picks up the pieces of a badly run and dead game?

**THE JOURNAL OF AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY** - Who owns this zine? I mean it's mine now, but if it becomes the official voice of the DAA, who would control its production? Are you happy with its role? What else can it do to help the hobby? I have a dream of the Journal being sold as a glossy magazine along with *New Ideas* and *Dipli*. (At the moment a blues guitarist on the radio is saying "Take me dan' that ro' bro'er Yeah." With a prophecy like that, anything could happen.)

**CHANGE** - Ugh what an ugly word. If anyone should become dissatisfied with anything in the Diplomacy hobby, who do they complain to, and how can they get things changed? What happens when our rules become outdated? Should there be an avenue for protest? If the Ombudsman is to take this role, will s/he need a committee to help?

THESE ARE EXTRACTS FROM A "POSTAL CONFERENCE" I CONDUCTED WAY BACK IN JUNE. UNFORTUNATELY THERE WAS SO MUCH FEEDBACK THAT IT HAS JUST BECOME IMPOSSIBLE TO PROCESS THE WHOLE LOT, FOR EVERYONE. THE NEXT THREE PAGES CONTAIN SAMPLES OF COMMENTS MADE ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS BY A VARIETY OF PEOPLE WHO I THOUGHT MIGHT RESPOND.

I WILL MAKE A COPY OF THIS AVAILABLE TO ANYONE WHO ASKS FOR IT, AS IT DOES CONTAIN SOME VERY GOOD IDEAS AND SOME STRONG OPINIONS ON WHERE THE HOBBY IS HEADING.

I WILL ALSO HAVE A COPY OR TWO AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE TO READ AT CANCON.

MICHAEL GIBSON

**JOHN CRAIN** (Victoria)

**RATINGS** - I can see two distinct topics here, firstly a discussion of ratings systems in general, and secondly specific discussion on the details of the Stab rating system. In my view, anybody is welcome to publish their own rating system, and they'll no doubt get plenty of feedback (from George at least). If they want to do all the work of rating games according to their system, that is their business, and if they can find someone to publish their ratings, more power to them. In line with my views on ratings systems in general, I believe it is up to the person actually putting together the ratings for Stab to decide which games they believe are eligible for inclusion. If they exclude too many, the howls of protest will soon make them regret it, if they include anything, no matter how irregular, then the ratings will be dismissed as a joke. The most important thing is that, on the final records for a game which has been conducted in a manner which differs from that generally accepted, the Boardman Number Custodian should indicate way that this has occurred, and why the game is considered "irregular".

**STEVEN BAGSHAW** (Western Australia)

**PUBLICITY** - We should be advertising in game shops and in Breakout. We should be trying to attract FTF Dippers, Wargamers and PBM gamers. Slick advertising in gaming magazines is not worth it. Publicity isn't really necessary. If we want it, we could wait until Cancon, then start a riot. Whatever we do, print is number 1, electronic media is to brief and fades from peoples memory quickly.

**ADRIAN APPELYARD** (Queensland)

**WORLD DIPCON** - Sydney would be a very good place to hold it since it is relatively centrally located. Canberra would be the next choice. Easter would be a good time, although that is the time the Melbourne Con is on.

**JAMES VICKERS** (South Australia)

**WORLD DIPCON** - For Australia to present this we would have to be extremely well organized and fairly united. This is why the DAA is essentially a good idea. Canberra strikes me as a good central place to hold it. How many overseas players could we expect? Probably a few Kiwis to start with. What must be remembered is that it is far cheaper for people to go to the UK from the USA or vice versa, than it is for either to come to Australia. So for people to spend about A\$2000 to get here we must have magnificent prizes, a high degree of professionalism and perhaps something a little more than just a Diplomacy Tournament (ie if they come over to Australia and want to travel we could supply billets in most states). I think it would perhaps be a little beyond the possibility to sponsor people to come over here.

**NEIL SHARK** (South Australia)

**MAGAZINES** - You are showing your socialist feelings here, let free market forces rule, if there are too many then the ones that aren't doing too well will go under and the popular ones will flourish. It is a hard world but I think that everybody realizes that there are more than enough zines on the market. Let common sense prevail.

**PIOTR DYDUSIAK** (New South Wales)

**MAGAZINES** - Yes, there are too many zines. How about aiming at tow huge zines run by several editors each? One could feature Normal Dip and the other variants and other games. When you consider the expense of having to subscribe to five zines (DI, Journal, Envoy, Beowulf, Vicky) the cost of two well organized bumpers is nothing.

A lot of games die of lack of interest or are not played to a win. I propose a \$3 gamefee, \$2 being a deposit and \$1 going for a prize of \$5 to the winner and \$2 to second. New games should be developed and conducted alongside on going progress in Diplomacy games, for example an improved Bourse.

**STEVE GOULD** (New South Wales)

**THE JOURNAL** - At the moment I only subscribe to The Envoy and The Go-between, so I feel there is a lot happening in the Diplomacy world that I miss out on because of all of the zines that I dont subscribe to. As it is quite expensive to subscribe to all of them, I'd like to see The Journal cover the important events/stories that I would otherwise miss out on, as well as the custodian reports etc. Actually, looking at The Journal now, I suppose that is what it is doing, but I thought I'd stress the point.

**MAT GIBSON** (South Australia)

**WORLD DIPCON** - Should be held in place of Cancon 90 or 91 simply because Australia cannot hold more than two broad based conventions. Having it in Canberra on Australia Day also lends credibility. We also need to use the Cancon facilities.

**RATINGS** - Remember that ratings only have a limited scope. What they represent is very clear and within their context a certain standard must be maintained. So yes, games ought to be excluded if they are deemed irregular.

**PAUL WARD** (Western Australia)

**WORLD DIPCON** - Should be held in Sydney to ensure a big turn-out. I doubt we are ready for it. The hobby is still expanding and we need to have a better structure and organized hobby first.

**RATINGS** - We dont have to decide what games to rate, just keep the records. I'm not a big fan of ratings anyway. Everyone knows who the best players are and I dont think they need that type of recognition.

**PUBLICITY** - The hobby seems to be expanding well enough without big advertising campaigns. The best way of attracting people is by making more and better magazines, and that is up to subscribers/contributors, not the editors.

**IAN WHITCHURCH** (Tasmania)

**WORLD DIPCON** - A great idea. It should be at Cancon, on the grounds of central location, established position as the premier Dipcon in Australia and non-parochialism. Also, if we are going to hold it, we need to start accumulating funds so we've got enough money to contact everyone in Australia who might be interested.

ALAN HOWARD (South Australia)

MAGAZINES - At this stage, I think we have just enough zines for the hobby. Any more and we start to saturate it with zines. New zines will have to offer something brand new to get people interested. Regarding an editors pack, one way to do such a thing would be to get current editors to write about their experience in starting up a zine. They should write about what not to do, as well as what to do.

MICHAEL HOPTON (South Australia)

CHANGE - Power grabs and people abusing positions are unlikely at this stage and cant be stopped in any case, only noticed early and controlled. At present there are many zines to turn to if someone tries to push a particular line. The nature of the hobby (many small zines) means everyone should remain reasonably well informed. No-one has any real power to control such a beast.

GEORGE SMIRNOW (Victoria)

WORLD DIPCON - John Cain is the man. He will have valuable personal experience and exposure. We should be guided by him when he returns from the UK. Basic to any consideration of World Dipcon is whether we could attract any overseas visitors if we really tried to, and if so how many. I would be prepared to help as much as I reasonably could, eg with billeting. I see Melbourne as easily the best and most superior venue for World Dipcon for the following reasons:

- \* The Melbourne bunch would all rise to the occasion.
- \* The Easter Convention in Melbourne has four full days.
- \* Easter in Melbourne is the most fantastic weather in the world.
- \* Numerous pikers from Sydney who have so far refused to attend any interstate Con would not miss World Dipcon in Melbourne.
- \* Melbourne has John Cain who will be the main man.
- \* Melbourne actually does have a greater concentration of reliable, longstanding hobby members who would contribute their effort. Many hands make light work.

CHANGE - We cant stop it. Lets change everything. Keep on changing it or it gets boring. Bring in new ideas, bring back old ideas. Put a box in all the zines begging everyone to send all their ideas to you. Look you could be the Catalytic Central Printer and GM Custodian President who took Diplomacy to the Pubs. No, I dont mean that bit but I wont delete it, I like it.

LUKE CLUTTERBUCK (New South Wales)

#### DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

The sole advantage of this organization, to my mind, is to get ourselves in the phone book. I have a suggestion here for publicity. Elect someone Chair (you, me, a paper bag - it doesn't matter) and ask someone BIG to be honorary President for a year which means they come to one event and give a 15 minute talk. I suggest Bill Hayden or Clive Robertson. If they accept we tell the media. If they refuse we tell the media. We can't lose!

#### PUBLICITY

If you want to air your own views then you must take out paid advertising. This is expensive. \$350 for one tiny ad towards the back of one metropolitan paper for example. Late night and early morning TV can be had for as little as \$120 but it costs at least \$1000 for a 30 second commercial (and that's if I use friends in the industry). Radio is probably cheapest of all but also the most unpredictable.

TWENTY  
SEVEN

# A Word From Our Sponsors

## A QUICK REVIEW OF AUSTRALIA'S DIPLOMACY ZINES

1 TO 1 AGAINST #2 NOVEMBER 1988 \$1.40  
FROM MICKEY'S MOUTH N. SMARK 1P  
"ODIN" POETRY PAGE VARIOUS 1P  
GAMES \*CURRENTLY RUNNING 5 GAMES (FROM THE  
# BROUWLE FOLD.  
GAME OPENINGS. NONE MENTIONED

BROWL #18 SEPTEMBER 1988 60¢  
BLISS NR 18 A. ENGLAND 1P  
LETTERS VARIOUS 1P  
SYMPATHETIC TO THE SOUTH R. WILSON 1P  
BROWL #19 OCTOBER 1988 60¢  
BLISS NR 19 A. ENGLAND 1/2P  
LETTERS VARIOUS 1P  
THE ASSOCIATION OF AUS. DIP. PLAYERS A. ENGLAND 1/2P  
BROWL #20 NOVEMBER 1988 60¢  
BLISS NR 20 A. ENGLAND 1/4P  
JOKES A. ENGLAND 1/4P  
LETTERS VARIOUS 1/2P  
SCOP! A. ENGLAND 1P  
GAMES \*CURRENTLY RUNNING TWO GAMES.  
# NO GAME OPENINGS.

DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY #8 OCTOBER 1988 \$1.40  
A. D. I. S. P. WARD 1P  
MAILING VARIOUS 3P  
GONE FISHING (WHY DIPLOMACY?) B. BROWN 1P  
"ALBANY" ENDGAME STATEMENT VARIOUS 1P  
"ZARNARON" ENDGAME STATEMENT VARIOUS 3P  
"PREMANTLE" " " VARIOUS 1P  
4 DAY SPORT P. WARD 1P  
THE QUIZ P. WARD 2P  
MIA DIPLOMACY L. PULSIPHER 3P  
PLAYER INFORMATION P. WARD 1P  
GAMES \*CURRENTLY RUNNING FIVE GAMES.  
# GAME OPENINGS:  
NORMAL DIPLOMACY, LOVELY CONTINENT,  
MEDIEVAL DIPLOMACY, MEDIEVAL EUROPE,  
MIA DIPLOMACY.

GUNSHIP #3 OCTOBER 1988 \$1.30  
RECON A. HOWARD 1P  
FLAK VARIOUS 2P  
JOURNEY INTO THE UNKNOWN A. HOWARD 2P  
GOOD OL GUNBOAT G. SMIRNOW 1/2P  
DIPNOW - A COMMENT G. LONG 1/2P  
TOO MUCH BANG FOR THE BUCK D. DANIELS 1P  
APACHE MEETS ITS MATCH (COMMENT WEEKENDS) 1P  
ASPECTS OF DIPLOMACY A. GENTLEMAN 1P  
BENZINE (SUBZINE) B. GROENEN 2P  
NOTICES A. HOWARD  
GUNSHIP #4 NOVEMBER 1988 \$1.50  
RECON A. HOWARD 1P  
FLAK VARIOUS 3P  
HOT NIGHTS, HOTTEMPERS, HOT LEAD W. STODGEL 1P  
RAAF AIR SHOW A. HOWARD 1P  
ASPECTS OF DIPLOMACY A. GENTLEMAN \* 2P  
FIXED WING GUNSHIPS A. CADD 2P  
THE SPECTRE SMG A. HOWARD 1/2P  
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY CH. A. HOWARD 1P  
INXS - THE CONCERT A. HOWARD 1/2P  
ROUND ROBIN CENTRE COUNT A. HOWARD 1/2P  
BENZINE B. GROENEN 3P  
HELICOPTER CAPABILITY CHART (REPRINTED) 1/2P  
NOTICES A. HOWARD 1/2P  
GAMES \*CURRENTLY RUNNING 11 "GUNBOAT" GAMES  
# GAME OPENINGS:  
GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY (NO PRESS), GUNBOAT  
DIPLOMACY (WITH PRESS), NORMAL DIP.

THE ENVOY #22 OCTOBER 1988 \$2.50  
LETTERS VARIOUS 3P  
PLAYER INFORMATION M. ASHWORTH 1P  
DR. GOLDILOX DR. GOLDILOX 1P  
WAR QUIZ P. DYDUSIAK 1P  
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP UPDATE MATT GIBSON 3P  
PLAY BY MODEM N. ASHWORTH 1/2P  
FAVOURITE NAMES FOR DIPLOMA P. COOK (REPRINT) 3P  
SOCIAL GAME REPORT H. KOLOTAS 1P  
WHY PRIZE MONEY? H. KOLOTAS 1P  
STAB! RATINGS N. ASHWORTH 3P  
THE LOST LECTURES (Pt 1) A. BISMARK \* 1/2P  
DAA ANNOUNCEMENT G. LONG 1/2P  
"JEDBURGH" POETRY PAGE VARIOUS 1P  
MARIA THERESA ENDGAME REPORT VARIOUS 3P  
GAMES \*CURRENTLY RUNNING 14 GAMES INCLUDING  
BOURSE AND ANARCHY VARIANTS  
# GAME OPENINGS:  
NORMAL DIPLOMACY (FOR EXPERIENCED PLAYERS  
AND FOR BEGINNERS), BOURSE, UPRHEAVAL,  
MEDIEVAL EUROPE

THE GO-BETWEEN v6 n5 SEPTEMBER 1988 \$5.00  
NO ARTICLES ON DIPLOMACY, BUT THIS IS CURRENTLY  
RUNNING ABOUT A DOZEN GAMES THROUGH A DIPLOMACY  
SUBZINE. THE SUBZINE HAS NOT APPEARED FOR  
TWO ISSUES (6 MONTHS) AND NONE OF THE GMS I  
KNOW OF IN THE KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON.

TRAGEDY OF HOPE A NEW ZINE, AS YET UNBORN.  
HAS GAME OPENINGS AND PROBABLY ALSO  
HUNGRY FOR SUBSCRIBERS.

VICTORIANA #14 OCTOBER 1988 \$1.80  
MOONLIGHTING J. CAIN 1/2P  
HUMOUR L. CLUTTERBUCK 1/2P  
FROM THE ROYAL COURIER'S SATCHEL VARIOUS 6P  
REPORT ON COMPLAINT ("SHACKLES") J. CAIN 1P  
THE GREAT RATINGS DEBATE (II) G. SMIRNOW 1/2P  
JOHN CAIN'S REPLY J. CAIN 2P  
AUSTRIA: AN ABUSED CHILD A. ENGLAND 1/2P  
SMIRNOW G. SMIRNOW 1/2P  
AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP REPORT B. BROWN 2P  
NOTICES J. CAIN 1P  
VICTORIANA #15 NOVEMBER 1988 \$2.00  
MOONLIGHTING J. CAIN 1P  
FROM THE ROYAL COURIER'S SATCHEL VARIOUS 6P  
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIP. CHAMPS. A. ENGLAND 3P  
SADC: THE TOURNAMENT J. CAIN 1P  
SADC: THE PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE J. CAIN 1/2P  
ADELAIDE ALIVE? G. SMIRNOW 1/2P  
ADELAIDE SADC GAS AWARDS G. SMIRNOW 1P  
SA CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES B. BROWN 1P  
STARNOW: A COMMENT B. WAYNE \* 1P  
CANCON CUP B. BROWN 2P  
NOTICES J. CAIN 1P  
STAB AND SCAR A. ENGLAND 1P

GAMES \*CURRENTLY RUNNING 13 GAMES, INCLUDING  
INCLUDING LORD OF RINGS, NAPOLEONIC, FAR  
EAST, WW II, FINAL CONFLICT III  
# GAME OPENINGS:  
NORMAL (BOTH AUSTRALIAN AND INTERNA-  
TIONAL), DOWNFALL, RAILWAY RIVALS.

1 TO 1 AGAINST #1 OCTOBER 1988 \$1.40  
FROM MICKEY'S MOUTH N. SMARK 1P

# B.N.C.

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GAMESTARTS (Since issue 88-2)

1988TI '88B' The Go-between ?

?

?

1988TJ '88C' The Go-between Ian Whitchurch

A)Peter Jennings E)'Vagabond'(c/oWhite Friars) F)Stuart Forsyth  
G)Chris Bolger I)Steven Szabo R)Edmund Bosworth T)Greg Long

1988TK '88D' The Go-between ~~Ian Whitchurch~~ <sup>Adrian Appleyard.</sup>

A)David Harrison E)Chris Pickett F)D.Newbury G)M.Trehy  
I)M.Moore R)Ben Aveling T)Alan Howard

1988TL 'Ingelhope' Diplomatic Immunity Terry Tolhurst

A)Peter Lovett E)Greg Long F)Peter Carr G)Liam Cosgrove  
I)James Fetherston R)James Vickers T)Greg Bristow

1988TM 'Joh' The Envoy Marion Ashworth

A)David Cox E)Ron Hancock F)David Walsh G)Jim Gandy  
I)Alex Kalnins R)Chris Pickett T)Anthony Douglas

1988TN 'Heorot' Beowulf Andrew England

A)Harry Kolotas E)Greg Cobcroft F)Michael Gonsalves G)Mathew Gibson  
I)Martin Lewis R)Tom Johnson T)John Dods  
((International Game))

1988TO 'Chappell' Victoriana Wayne Closter

A)David Harrison E)Tom Lake F)Craig Brown G)Bob Howard  
I)Rowan Munro R)Michael Hopton T)Peter Meadows

1988TP 'Jarrahdale' Diplomatic Immunity Paul Ward

A)Bob Howard E)Bill Brown F)Jason Watling G)Jeff Perkins  
I)Terry Tolhurst R)Steven Bagshaw T)Frank Haluszczak

1988TQ 'Shangri-La' The Envoy Steven Bagshaw

A)Terry Tolhurst E)Terry Bradley F)Wojtek Czarnocki G)Bob Howard  
I)Ken Sproat R)Duncan Baxter T)Duncan Sparrow

1988TR 'Hayden' The Envoy Michael Hopton

A)Tony Fahd E)Danny Klepac F)Carl Chang G)Neil Kitchen  
I)Ian Mannering R)Jonathan Heaney T)J.Swain

1988TS 'Bradman' Victoriana Bill Brown

A)Ken Sproat E)Neil Innes F)Duncan Baxter G)Steve Bagshaw  
I)Terry Tolhurst R)Robert Wessels T)Simon Miles



# B.N.C.

ENDGAMES (Since issue 88-2)

1984TF 'Dip D' The Saga Continues... Austral View The Envoy

Start April 1984 End July 1988 GM Andrew England

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
A	4	4	2	3	3	3	3	5	6	9	9	11	11	12/11	11	11/10			MH/SM/WC
E	4	4	4	6	6	8	9	9	10	10	11	13	14	16	16	16	16	17	D. Sparrow
F	5	5	5	5	6	7	7	5	4	3	3	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	M.Hopton
G	/5	7	9	7	/4	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SE/TD/MR
I	4	3	3	3	5	6	8	11	11	8	7	5	4	1	0	-	-	-	A. Champion
R	7	8	6	6	5	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	5	5	7	7	7	7	MI. Gibson
T	3	3	5	4	5	5	5	/1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	C.Jose/CD

Agreed End: (England, Austria, Turkey)

1985TL '85M' The Go-Between

Start August 1985 End August 1988 GM Richie Holmes

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
A	4	5	6	7	9	9	11	13	14	16	16	Tony Graham
E	5	7	5	5	/4	4	3	3	3	4	4	Peter Rhodes/Paul Ward
F	6	6	8	9	10	9	9/10	10	12	13		Glen Northey/Bob Howard
G	3	2	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	John Stewart
I	3	/3	4	4	5	7	7	6	5	/2	1	D.Clancy/J.Penman/R.Otelli
R	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	2	2	0	-	Mark Haughey
T	4	4	5	4	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	Eric Roche

Agreed End: (Austria, England, France, Italy)

1985TN 'Dip 18' Austral View The Envoy

Start September 1985 End July 1988 GM David Monk

	01	02	03	04	05	06	
A	3	0	-	-	-	-	Simon Miles
E	5	5	5	3	1	0	Duncan Sparrow
F	5	5	6	7	9	11	Duncan Baxter
G	5	4	5	6	7	6	Mathew Gibson
I	5	6	/7	5	3	3	Chris Edwards/Michael Gibson
R	5	7	7	7	9	11	Andrew Champion
T	4	5	5	6	5	/3	Geoff Barrow/Andrew England

Agreed End: (France, Russia, Germany, Italy, Turkey)

1986TB 'Dip 20' Austral View The Envoy

Start January 1986 End April 1988 GM Mathew Gibson

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	
A	5	6	8	9	9	10	9	9	Gregory Calder
E	4	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	Bill Brown
F	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	Ian Castle
G	5	6	5	5	5	6	6	6	Simon Miles
I	4	4	5	5	5	5	/5	6	Paul Castle/Andrew England
R	4	4	3	3	3	2	3	2	Tom Gribble
T	5	4	3	2	1	0	-	-	Richard Williams

Agreed End: (Austria, England, Germany, Italy, France, Russia)

# B.N.C.

## 1986TH 'Maria Theresa' The Envoy

Start June 1986 End September 1988 GM E. Roche/M. Hopton

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	
A	5	5	6	8	8	10	11	14	18	Neil Ashworth
E	4	4	4	5	5	4	4	/4	5	Jim Penman/ Wojtek Czarnocki
F	4	5	/2	2	0	-	-	-	-	Theo Khomatas/ Peter Clark
G	5	5	/5	5	6	7	7	5	4	Michael Heath/ Bill Brown
I	4	6	7	6	6	4	3	1	0	Andrew Champion
R	6	8	8	8	9	9	/9	10	7	Daniel Hamilton/ Alan Howard
T	4	2	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	Neil Smark

Outright Victory: Austria

## 1986TL 'Metternich' The Envoy

Start September 1986 End October 1988 GM Duncan Sparrow

	01	02	03	04	05	06	
A	3	3	4	0	-	-	Simon Miles
E	4	/5	5	5	5	5	Kevin Britton/ Bill Brown
F	4	5	5	5	5	5	John Cain
G	6	5	/6	6	6	6	Peter McDonald/ Ben Groenen
R	6	6	4	5	/5	4	Jim Penman/ David Walsh
I	4	6	8	12	13	14	Andrew England
T	4	3	2	1	0	-	Sasha Skawronski

Agreed End: (Italy, Germany, England, France, Russia)

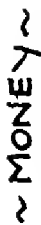
## 1987TA 'Albany' Diplomatic Immunity

Start January 1987 End October 1988 GM Paul Ward

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	
A	4	4	2	1	1	0	-	-	Peter Clark
E	4	6	3	4	4	3	3	3	Marianne Clark
F	5	5	6	6	5	5	5	4	Jason Watling
G	5	6	7	8	8	8	9	9	Peter Lovett
I	4	4	4	4	2	3	0	-	Steven Bagshaw
R	3	1	1	0	-	-	-	-	Martin Girshik
T	5	8	10	11	14	15	17	18	Bob Howard

Outright Victory: Turkey

# Update



CHN CON. CHUBERA  
JAN. 26th - 29th '89

neglects. So, for  
③ substituting, evaluate.

challenge that is  
CANDON, is

PEOPLE GOING





**At CanCon The Opposition  
Will Be Fierce And The  
Drinks Far And Few  
Between - Are You Thirsty  
Enough To Take A Seat At  
The Bar?**

CanCon - Where the men are real men, diplomats are real diplomats and small fuzzy things from Alpha Centauri just can't make it because of the different holiday dates.

Write To Mat The Bastard Organiser Gibson 4 Oxenbould St. Parkside S.A. 5063 (08) 271 4276

## AUSTRALIAN ZINES

### BEOWULF

ANDREW ENGLAND  
1/16 SOUTH RD  
TORRENSVILLE SA 5031

### DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY

PAUL WARD  
5 SANDALWOOD DRVE  
GREENWOOD WA 6024

### GUNSHIP

ALAN HOWARD  
1/16 SOUTH RD  
TORRENSVILLE SA 5031

### 1 TO 1 AGAINST

NEIL SMARK  
5 THE STRAND  
COL. LIGHT GARDENS SA 5041

### THE ENVOY

MARION ASHWORTH  
25 PARK AVE  
ROSEVILLE NSW 2061

### THE 40-BETWEEN

RICK SNELL or IAN WHITCHURCH  
PO BOX 286C  
GPO HOBART TAS 7001

### VICTORIANA

JOHN CAIN  
76 BANCOL RD  
BALWYN VIC 3103

## AUSTRALIAN HOBBY SERVICES

### GAME RECORDS

MICHAEL GIBSON  
1/2A DAVIDSON ST  
SOUTH YARRA VIC 3141

### VARIANT GAME RECORDS

ANDREW ENGLAND  
1/16 SOUTH RD  
TORRENSVILLE SA 5031

### OMBUDSMAN

LUKE CLUTTERBUCK  
16/353A OLD SOUTH HEAD RD  
BONDI BEACH NSW 2026

### AUSTRALIAN VARIANT BANK

JOHN CAIN  
76 BANCOL RD P  
BALWYN VIC 3103

### AUSTRALIAN DIP POLLSTER

STEVEN BAGSHAW  
78 SHERINGTON DRWE  
GREENWOOD WA 6024

### TOURNAMENT RATER

MICHAEL HOPTON  
BOX 26  
GPO WHYALLA SA 5600

### NOVICE HANDBOOK (AFFAIRS OF STATE)

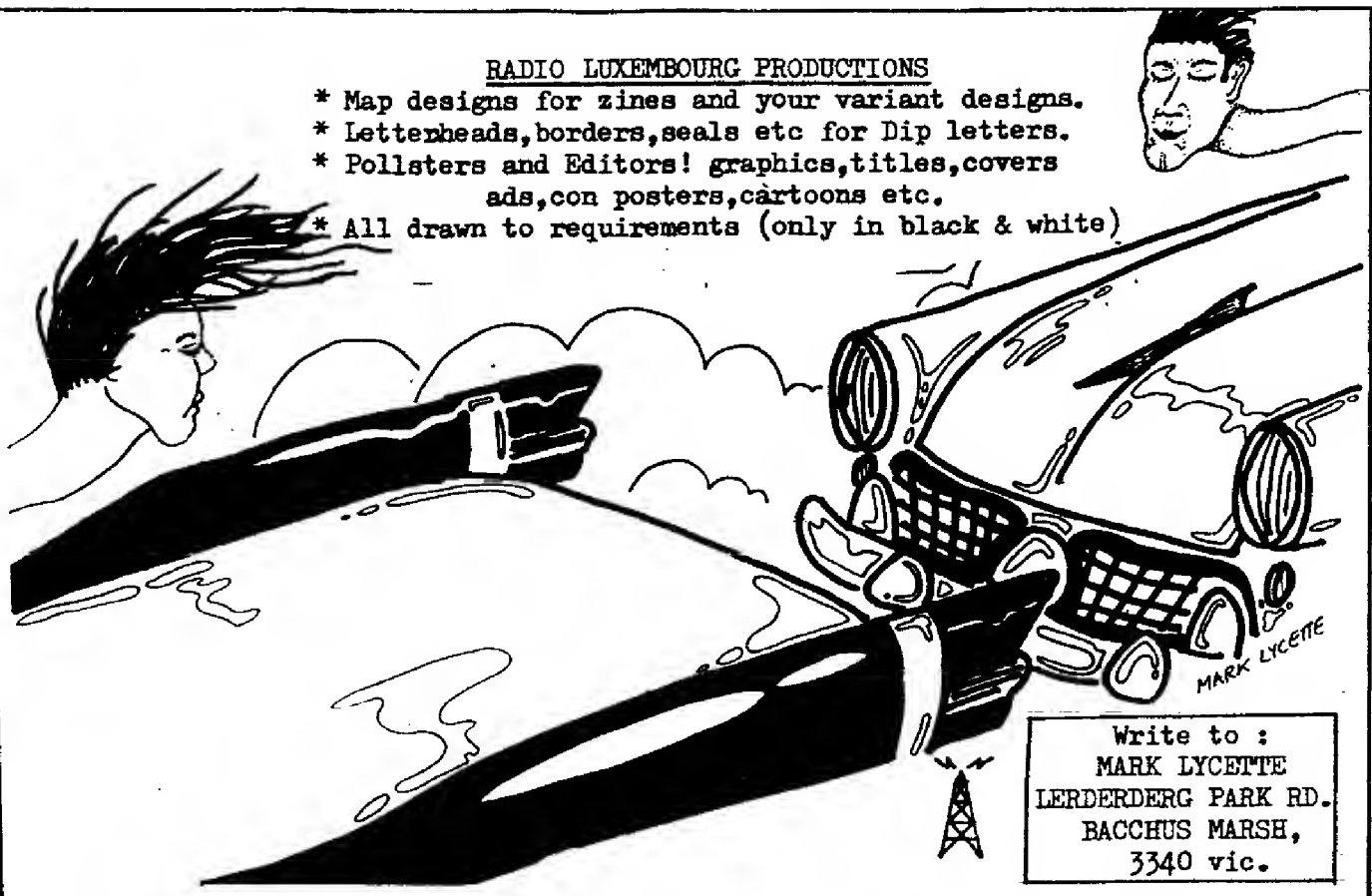
LUKE CLUTTERBUCK  
(AS ABOVE)

### INTERNATIONAL SUBSCRIPTION EXCHANGE

ANDREW ENGLAND  
(AS ABOVE)

### RADIO LUXEMBOURG PRODUCTIONS

- \* Map designs for zines and your variant designs.
- \* Letterheads, borders, seals etc for Dip letters.
- \* Pollsters and Editors! graphics, titles, covers  
ads, con posters, cartoons etc.
- \* All drawn to requirements (only in black & white)



Write to :  
MARK LYCETTE  
LERDERBERG PARK RD.  
BACCHUS MARSH,  
3340 vic.

# Ratings

## AUST DIP RATING SYSTEM (STAB REVISED MK 2)

By Daryl Kibble and Andrew England with amendments by Peter Clark, Andrew England and Michael Gibson. Thanks to Bill Brown, John Cain, Luke Clutterbuck, Mark Nelson, George Smirnow and Paul Yovich.

### Introduction

Here lies the revised Stab Diplomacy ratings system. It's taken eight months and the input of dozens of people around Australia. We feel sure that the changes we have implemented will streamline the system and better reflect the performance of the players.

It is important to remember that ratings should be put in their proper perspective. The spirit of the game should be paramount above all else. Playing solely for a rating is giving the system undue priority. P.C., A.E., M.G.

Introduction to Mk 2: this improved version involves a re-balancing of the progressive element as against the endgame element. Previously, the former tended to overbear the effects of the latter which in turn led to some anomalous results. The improved Stab increases the victory point pool so that it is better balanced against the progressive element.

FROM ANDREW ENGLAND.

AS BY NOW YOU ARE AWARE, THERE ARE NO RATINGS FOR POSTAL GAMES IN THIS ISSUE. THIS IS DUE TO FOUR VERY GOOD REASONS:

- #1 NO ROOM
- #2 ANDREW'S ALTERATIONS TO THE STAB! SYSTEM HAVE RECEIVED SOME GOOD REVIEWS, (AND EVEN G. SMIRNOW IS A LITTLE HAPPIER) AND I LIKE THE NEW SYSTEM VERY MUCH. I AM A LITTLE WARY THOUGH, AS CHANGES TO THIS GREAT SYSTEM SEEM TO OCCUR OFTEN. IN THE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS IT, I WILL BE REORGANISING THE JOURNAL RATINGS SOMEWHAT. (SEE BELOW) AND I'VE NOT HAD TIME FOR IT THIS ISSUE.
- #3 IT WILL APPEAR IN EVERY OTHER ZINE ANYWAY.
- #4 I'LL BE REPRODUCING IT NEXT ISSUE. (AGAIN, SEE BELOW.)

### THE JOURNAL OF AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY POSTAL RATINGS.

EACH ISSUE OF THIS QUARTERLY ZINE WILL HAVE THE STAB MKII RATINGS FOR EVERY COMPLETED AND IN PROGRESS POSTAL GAME IN AUSTRALIA. USING MY C/P TO DATE GAME RECORDS, AND MICHAEL HOPTON'S RATE! PROGRAM, (IN JOHN'S COMPUTER) WE CAN INSURE THAT EACH SET OF RESULTS ARE AT MOST 1 MONTH OLD. IT WILL BE A RECORD OF EVERY PLAYER IN EVERY GAME OVER 4 TURNS OLD IN AUSTRALIA.

AS A SPECIAL, INAUGURAL SPLASH, AND TO PROVIDE A LITTLE HISTORY TO THE RATINGS, WE WILL ALSO BE SHOWING RESULTS AS AT JAN 88 AND JUL 88 IN ADDITION TO THE COMPLETE JAN 88 RESULTS.

## Next Issue

- \* THE FIRST IN A NEW BREED OF PROGRESSIVE RATINGS
- \* REPORT AND DISSECTION OF THE NATIONAL TITLES IN CANBERRA
- \* ARTICLES ON PSYCHO-DIPLOMACY
- \* THE 'GAMES 89' VICTORIAN DIPLOMACY CHAMPIONSHIP UPDATE.
- \* MORE MAYONNAISE

THIRTY  
FIVE

Announcing  
the  
**1989 Diplomacy Diary**

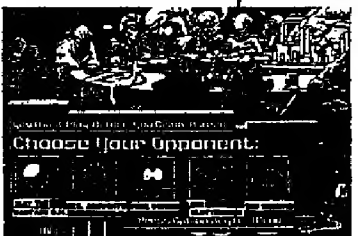
A week to an opening  
Diplomat birthdays  
Significant events 1900 to 1918  
Artwork  
Zine covers since 1980  
Cartoons  
Address book  
Month planner  
Due date reminder  
Spiral binding

Available at CanCon 89  
and mail order  
\$5.00

Contact:  
Michael Gibson  
1/2A Davidson St.  
South Yarra VIC 3141

Monday 23rd	A WEEK TO AN OPENING
Tuesday 24th	
Wednesday 25th	NOTES AND CALENDER
Thursday 26th	
Friday 27th	

1/2 ACTUAL SIZE

Saturday 28th	DIPLOMAT BIRTHDAYS																																																	
Sunday 29th																																																		
ZINE COVERS, ARTWORK																																																		
Notes	 <p>Choose Your Opponent:</p> <p>At CanCon The Opposition Will Be Fierce And The Drinks Far And Few Between - Are You Thirty Enough To Take A Seat At The Bar?</p> <p>CanCon - Where the men are real men, diplomats are real diplomats and small fuzzy things from Alpha Centauri just can't make it because of the different galaxy drive.</p> <p>1989 The Diplomacy Diary: Edited &amp; Designed by Michael Gibson</p>																																																	
<p><b>JANUARY</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		S	T	W	T	F	S	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
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<p>Advertisement for the 1989 National Diplomacy Championships, Canberra. Organiser, Mat Gibson.</p>																																																		